

## Clashes grow as defiant mourners fill the streets of Azerbaijan

### 'Pull troops out' challenge to Gorbachov

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

As more than three-quarters of a million people gathered in Baku for an emotional mass ceremony to bury the victims of the Soviet Army's crackdown, the Azerbaijani parliament yesterday demanded an end to the state of emergency and the withdrawal of all Soviet troops.

This challenge to Moscow's authority came amid rising tension in the republic and signs of further confrontation. Reports reaching Moscow said ships had been set on fire in the harbour and parts of the city were burning.

Soviet troops were apparently unable to enforce the state of emergency, and the situation, officially said to be "very tense", appeared to be increasingly unstable as a wave of public anger swept across Azerbaijan. Mass rallies were held in many other towns, and Tass reported that a statue to Lenin was smashed and the premises of a district party committee were gutted.

Speakers at the republic's Supreme Soviet voted to suspend the state of emergency and said they were considering a referendum on secession from the Soviet Union.

Earlier in the day, the funerals, conducted according to Muslim rites, brought Baku

into anti-Soviet anger. A huge rally was held yesterday at the Azerbaijani mission in Moscow, where speakers denounced the Army's move into Baku and unfurled banners saying "Gorbachov assassin". Intellectuals and prominent Azerbaijani cultural figures complained to foreign correspondents that the West had sided with Armenia and Mr Gorbachov and overlooked Azerbaijani grievances.

They held another large demonstration yesterday evening outside the Soviet Ministry of Defence. Meanwhile, the political fall-out of the shooting appeared to be growing. President Gorbachov was reported by Tass to have held crisis talks with Azerbaijani leaders. No news was given of the outcome. Many people here were anxiously wondering whether the backlash may not now be worse than the chaos which preceded the army intervention.

Mr Ayaz Mutalibov, the Azerbaijani prime minister, yesterday appealed for calm. He said the Soviet leadership had given a firm guarantee that it would help and that steps would be taken to restore the republic's sovereignty and to suppress actions against extremists. But his words appeared to have little effect.

Even a former disgraced Politburo member in Erzhnev's period, Mr Geidar Aliyev, joined in the chorus of denunciation at a press conference in the Azerbaijani mission on Sunday. He had been party leader in the republic for 13 years, but he blamed the recently-dismissed holder of that office, Mr Abdulrahman Vezirov, who he said had done nothing to stop destabilization in the republic.

Meanwhile, the situation on the Soviet border with Iran remained confused. Tass said that huge numbers of Azerbaijanis and Iranians were continuing to cross in both directions. But Tehran radio reported that Soviet troops

to a virtual standstill as tens of thousands of mourners converged on the centre. Shops and public buildings were closed, and the bodies of 60 of the victims were carried through the streets to a communal grave in a park overlooking the city.

The official death toll was put at 83, including 14 servicemen and members of their families, by Lieutenant-General Anatoly Dubynskiy, the Baku military commander. He said rumours that thousands had been killed and that attacks had been launched against ethnic Russians were a "downright lie" — no Baku resident had been killed in the past two days.

But the Popular Front, the nationalist organization now virtually controlling the city and the republic, said many more died in the shooting on Friday night, and their bodies were secretly removed.

Television remained off the air yesterday and no newspapers appeared in Baku. One radio station, Azadiyk (Freedom), has been broadcasting nationalist claims, which General Dubynskiy denounced as attempts to provoke a fresh flare-up of violence.

At the funeral the victims, whose photographs were displayed, were referred to as martyrs. The chairman of the Shia Muslim Ecclesiastical Board of Transcaucasia, sent a telegram to President Gorbachov on Sunday, saying words were inadequate to express the people's sorrow and "their boundless grief which will remain for ever in millions of hearts".

This grief has rapidly turned



Day of grief: Townsfolk of Kirovabad join hundreds of thousands of their countrymen across Azerbaijan in mourning the victims of the fighting.

## West Germany moves to stem growing tide of ethnic refugees

From Ian Murray, Bonn

The Government here is urgently drawing up plans to make West Germany a less attractive haven for ethnic Germans from throughout the Soviet bloc, particularly to stop the exodus from East Germany of people needed to rebuild that country's economy.

With their political futures difficult and uncertain, increasing numbers of ethnic Germans continue to pour into West Germany. Last week alone 12,712 East Germans arrived in the country — 2,531 last Tuesday. A further 2,989 refugees came in from Poland, and 2,709 from the Soviet Union, making 18,410 for the week.

This brings the total of East

German refugees who have crossed to West Germany this year to some 30,000, along with about 12,000 ethnic Germans from elsewhere in Eastern Europe. More than one

million ethnic Germans arrived in the Federal Republic in the previous two years.

The first new regulation to be introduced next week to make the country less attractive is not so much a way of keeping East Germans out but of punishing those who were responsible for repression. It is a pension reform which will deprive former members of the Stasi of the right to a West German pension. Since it will

save little money, this is, however, mainly a symbolic gesture.

Further pension reforms are also being prepared to head off the resentment at the fact that refugees can qualify automatically for higher pensions than people who have been paying into funds throughout their working lives.

The level of benefit is to be reduced but not cut entirely in a move which is particularly aimed at refugees from Poland, from which more than 60 per cent of such refugees arrived last year.

Here again, since the proportion arriving who are of pensionable age is below 10 per cent, the financial saving

to the budget is not as important as the domestic political need to limit the resentment caused by the present system.

The monthly poll for ZDF's "political barometer" broadcast yesterday showed that a fast-growing number of people believe that the refugees have too many privileges. This month 52 per cent thought this compared with just 42 per cent a month ago.

At the same time the idea of quick reunification is winning more and more support, according to the poll, which showed that 74 per cent now want unity and 68 per cent believe it will happen within the next decade. Only 14 per cent are now against it.

## Inquiry on Stalker is ruled out

By Richard Ford and Peter Davenport

The Home Secretary last night rejected a demand by a Conservative MP for an independent judicial inquiry into the Stalker affair.

Mr David Waddington told MPs he saw no reason for such an inquiry after the dropping last week of fraud charges

against a businessman friend of Mr John Stalker, the former Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester.

He had been urged to set up an independent inquiry, with powers to compel witnesses to give evidence, into the circumstances surrounding

Continued on page 22, col 5

#### INSIDE

##### The ring master

● "Some people say I'm ruthless. I don't think so. I'm single-minded." Six weeks ago, Frank Warren, boxing promoter, was shot. On page 11 he talks about the shooting, about his life, and about the world that has made him rich

##### Portfolio

###### PLATINUM

● Two readers shared yesterday's £2,000 daily prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000: Page 27

#### NEXT WEEK



● The Times Crossword, the world's most illustrious puzzle, is 60 years old next week. To mark the event, we shall be publishing The Times Diamond Jubilee Crossword, with a holiday to India and £1,000 cash for the winner, plus other prizes

● Clues start appearing next Monday, so order your copy of The Times now

#### Games on

African sports officials have voted against a boycott of the Commonwealth Games despite the unofficial English cricket tour to South Africa. Page 44

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## Gummer steps up beef ban pressure

From Peter Galford, Brussels

West Germany will "inevitably" be taken to the European Court of Justice if it fails to lift its curbs on imports of British beef, Mr John Gummer, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, warned yesterday.

Britain and West Germany are bracing themselves for disagreement today when Mr Gummer raises the issue of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) with Herr Ignaz Kiechle, his West German counterpart. "If there has to be a row, then it will be a big one," Mr Gummer said.

The Germans imposed the ban because of fears that BSE could harm humans. A Bonn agricultural official said: "We are just following European Community rules, which allow us to withhold imports until there are satisfactory EC measures in place."

West Germany would use this in its defence if taken to

the EC Court, either by Britain or the European Commission, which has not disclosed its hand. Mr Gummer said the West German action was incompatible with the EC treaty. "No EC country takes unilateral decisions about health. If they did, we could all stop

Urgent research

Letters

imports of everybody else's food," he said. In a separate move to stop the spread of BSE, the Commission will today present EC farm ministers with fresh curbs on British exports of live cattle.

Mr Gummer dismissed the West German restrictions, which have yet to come into force, as a ploy to protect domestic beef producers from British competition, valued at £10 million a year. Bonn said it was purely a health issue.

## Coup plot is denied in Berlin

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor, East Berlin

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, last night arrived in East Germany amid political turmoil after further big setbacks for the communist party and rumours that a military coup might be imminent.

The rumours, contained in an early edition story of the mass circulation newspaper, *Bild*, were strongly denied

both by the Government and opposition groups. Senior British officials last night made it clear that the dangers facing East Germany's fragmented coalition should not be minimized. They expressed concern that the country's first free elections, on May 6, might be called into question.

## Shares tumble as output declines

By Colin Narborough, Economics Correspondent

Share prices fell yesterday after early falls on Wall Street and gloomy figures on Britain's industrial production and unit wage costs.

Fears that the economy could be moving towards recession under the pressure of high interest rates were fuelled by government figures showing manufacturing output slightly down in the three months to November.

While a slowdown in production is seen as part of government strategy to cool the overheated economy, other data showed that it has been accompanied by a fall in productivity and a surge in unit wage costs.

Mrs Thatcher has underlined the need to contain unit wage costs if companies are to compete with rivals overseas and preserve jobs.

In the three months to November, unit wage costs

rose 5.6 per cent above the same period a year earlier. This is the highest growth rate since summer 1986. Output in manufacturing was 0.1 per cent below the previous three months, though still 2.5 per cent higher than a year ago.

The pound fell on the news, but closed 0.1 of a point firmer

Production slowdown

on its trade-weighted index. A weaker Wall Street sent the FT-SE 100 index of leading shares into a steep fall. It ended 37.9 down at 2,297.1.

Although Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has expressed confidence about avoiding recession, Mr David Owen, an economist at Kleinwort Benson, the stockbroker, said that the economy was "dangerously close" to one.

## Police take a short cut to boost recruitment

By Stewart Trender, Crime Correspondent

Ever since members of the Metropolitan Police first paraded 161 years ago as Robert Peel's "new police", recruits to the British force have had to meet a minimum height requirement.

In Peel's day they were at least 5ft 7in, which may have been tall for those undernourished times. Architects of the force had sought men who could bring a presence to the turbulent Victorian streets.

Now in the metric 1990s, when the requirement can be anything from 172 to 180 centimetres — 5ft 8in to 6ft — depending on the force, London has decided physical presence is less important than other attributes.

As of yesterday the Metropolitan Police officially became Britain's first force to scrap all height requirements and dispense with the rule that policemen must be 5ft 8in tall and policewomen 5ft 4in in an attempt to attract more recruits from ethnic communities.

The decision is part of a £2 million plan aimed at widening the recruiting base within London and make it more representative of the communities in the capital. The force is also launching a new recruiting campaign and special courses to help promising applicants who fail entrance tests.

Other forces are certain to follow the London lead as they compete in the 1990s for more recruits from ethnic communities and increasingly scarce school-leavers. Yesterday Mr Wyn

Jones, the assistant commissioner responsible for recruitment and training, calculated that removing the height requirement would make 2 million more people in Britain eligible to join the force.

Mr Jones, 6ft 1in and a former rugby player, said members of Chinese, Vietnamese and Bangladeshi communities were often prevented from applying to join the police by height regulations. The average height of a Bangladeshi man was, for example, 5ft 4in.

Some forces may not follow the Metropolitan lead. Many have already allowed their regulation heights to shrink over recent years. Alone in Britain the City of London force steadfastly and proudly insists on men of 6ft and women of 5ft 7in.



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# British Aerospace plans big expansion of Liverpool airport

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Aerospace is preparing a £1.2 billion plan to develop Speke airport, Liverpool, into an international aviation hub.

The scheme, which has been under consideration for almost a year, is ready to be put to the Government, which will be asked to provide cash incentives that would see the airport grow from handling 466,000 passengers a year to 40 million by 2005.

Speke is owned by five local authorities and has lost money consistently in spite of a 29 per cent increase in traffic in the past year. The authorities, supported by a study commissioned by a BAe subsidiary, believe the airport could solve many congestion problems at London and Manchester.

Mr Rod Hill, the airport's finance director, said last night: "We are very confident that this plan will not only go ahead but will enable Liverpool to develop in the way it should have been doing over recent years. Somehow it lost its way, however, and never received the investment which would have enabled it to keep up with Manchester, even though it has been in existence much longer. The fact that it is

near Manchester could be an advantage because their single runway will quickly become saturated and with both Heathrow and Gatwick also full Liverpool is a natural place for future growth."

The airport handles scheduled flights to London, the Isle of Man and Belfast, as well as a growing number of charter holiday flights.

The scheme is to channel transatlantic flights to Liverpool and develop a "hub-and-spoke" system of short-haul services to European destinations. "There are few environmental problems because the approach is either over the Irish Sea or over largely unpopulated areas of Lancashire," Mr Hill said.

BAe, in its first commercial airport development, is preparing a formal planning application to develop part of the airport. It eventually hopes to develop it fully with the aid of government grants.

Mr Keva Coombes, leader of Liverpool council, is confident the authority will approve the plan. BAe directors are expected to give their approval by the spring. Work could begin as early as 1993

with a second runway, to be built on land reclaimed from the Mersey, operating by 1998. However, a 30-month study will be needed before work can begin and there would almost certainly have to be a public enquiry.

Mr Coombes said: "This would give back to the city the kind of trade it used to have up to 1914. It would put Liverpool back on the employment map with a bang."

● Safety authorities are investigating advertising claims by Pan American World Airlines that the average age of its transatlantic fleet is only 7.48 years because 18 of its 36 Boeing 747s have been subjected to such intensive rebuilding and maintenance that they are effectively new aircraft.

This is in spite of the fact that some were built in Seattle 20 years ago. The Civil Aviation Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration in the United States have been asked by other airlines to rule on whether such maintenance work does create a new aircraft. Pan Am said the work was needed to bring the aircraft up to standard for military use.

# Mother wins childcare cash battle

By Tim Jones  
Employment Affairs  
Correspondent

The Government may soon find itself in the European Court to answer charges that it discriminates against married people who wish to enter the job market by denying them the childcare allowances of up to £50 a week that are available to single parents applying for places on an Employment Training Scheme.

The issue was brought to a head yesterday by an Employment Appeal Tribunal, which dismissed the Government Training Commission's appeal against the finding of an industrial tribunal that Mrs Kay Jackson, a mother of three, had been unlawfully discriminated against because she is married.

The decision was welcomed as a "hollow victory" by the Equal Opportunities Commission. Ms Valerie Amos, its chief executive, said other married parents would not benefit from the decision, because an amendment to the 1989 Employment Act gives the Secretary of State power to discriminate against married parents.

The Department of Employment said last night that the decision not to give childcare allowances to married people had been taken because it would strain resources too much. "At present it costs £1m a month and it was decided that those most in need who should be targeted should be single parents."



Mrs Jackson with her three children. She was discriminated against over childcare allowance.

# Labour to launch reselection inquiry

By Philip Webster  
Chief Political  
Correspondent

Labour leaders yesterday ordered an investigation into the deselection of Mr Frank Field and the activities of the Militant Tendency in his Birkenhead and neighbouring constituencies.

Mr Field's fight to remain as his party's MP in the area received a potentially decisive boost as Labour's organization committee voted by 18 to two to freeze the selection of Mr Paul Davies, the left-wing union official who ousted Mr Field, until a full investigation is completed.

Against accusations from left-wing MPs that Mr Field had indulged in "McCarthyism", the committee backed Mr Neil Kinnock's demand that it should take action to uphold the rules and constitution of the party.

He called on the party to take "all appropriate action" and said it was the duty of every member to make sure the affairs of the party were properly and democratically conducted.

The committee acted on the recommendation of Mrs Joyce Gould, Labour's director of organization, who will head the inquiry into the reselection procedure.

## NEWS ROUNDUP

### Princess denies divorce reports

The Princess Royal yesterday denied reports that she is to divorce Captain Mark Phillips just five months after they officially separated (Ray Clancy writes).

The princess, asked about speculation that the Queen had given her permission for the couple to divorce, said: "Divorce? Never been mentioned by anybody."

She was speaking to an ITN reporter as she drove from her home, Gatcombe Park in Gloucestershire, on the day some press reports claimed an early divorce was imminent. At the wheel of a Land-Rover, the Princess repeated the word "divorce" looking puzzled before driving off.

Buckingham Palace announced the break-up of the couple's 15-year marriage in a brief statement last August.

### Actor jailed for life

An actor who appeared in Welsh television soap operas was jailed for life yesterday for the murder of his girl friend. Clive Roberts, aged 45, was found guilty at Caernarvon Crown Court of the murder of Miss Elinor Roberts, aged 34, a TV production assistant with whom he had lived for seven years at Port Dinorwic, Gwynedd. Roberts, an alcoholic, had battered her to death with broken pieces of a chair after a drinking session. The jury rejected his plea of manslaughter.

### £113m car-tax evasion

Up to £113 million, about 4 per cent of the total income from vehicle excise duty, will be lost this financial year because of road tax evasion (Michael Dynes writes). A roadside survey last June showed that there were about 1,200,000 unlicensed vehicles on the roads.

● Work to widen the M40 between Junction 4, at Handy Cross, High Wycombe, and Junction 5, at Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire, will begin in the spring.

### Harbour development

Proposals for a £250 million development to turn an 80-acre site bordering the historic Floating Harbour in Bristol into an arts and leisure centre were unveiled yesterday. LDR, a Cardiff-based planning consultancy, claims the scheme could generate around 4,500 jobs and provide about 2,000 homes. The plans include a maritime heritage centre, set around Brunel's steamship the SS Great Britain; an arts arena with concert hall, theatre and restaurants; and a business and sports centre.

### Trident base protest

About 20 peace campers living near the Clyde submarine base at Faslane, Strathclyde, took over a spit of land in Gare Loch yesterday in protest at plans to destroy part of it to make a channel for Trident nuclear submarines. The Rev Adrian Rennie, spokesman for Scottish CND, called on Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, to halt the development and hold a public inquiry. Mr Rennie said: "It's an area of great scenic beauty and geological importance."

### £685,000 damages

A girl aged five who suffered "catastrophic" brain damage after being deprived of oxygen at birth was yesterday awarded £685,000 damages in the High Court. Louise Evans, of London, has cerebral palsy, is unable to speak and is paralysed in all four limbs as a result of the birth at Princess Mary's RAF Hospital, Halton, Buckinghamshire. The damages are to be paid by the Ministry of Defence. It denied liability but consented to the award.

### Ford's foreign plants would fill in for strike

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

An all-out strike by 32,000 Ford workers could be countered by a stream of thousands of imported cars from the company's continental plants, severely denting Britain's balance of payments.

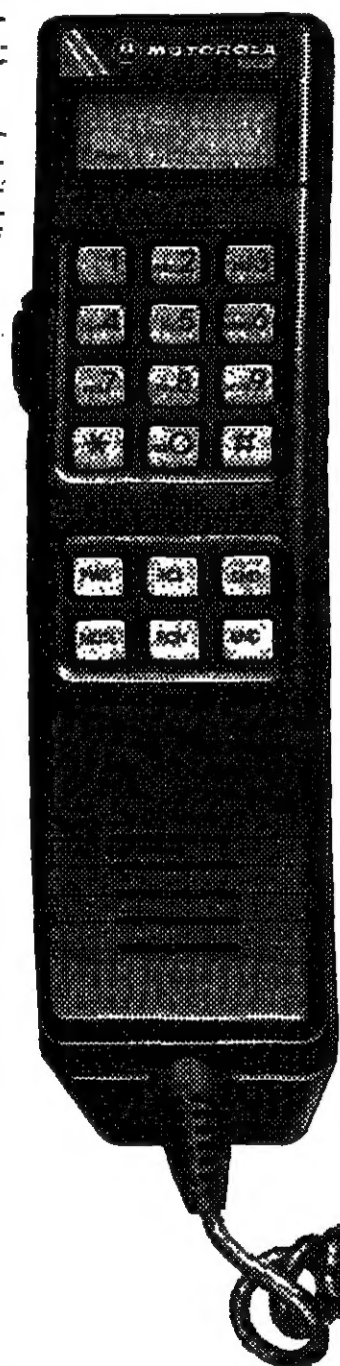
Manual workers who staff assembly lines at the 21 plants belonging to Ford start secret ballots today on whether or not to force a national strike over pay.

However, executives have warned employees in a letter that they risk the company's position as Britain's biggest car company if they walk out in protest at their offer of a 10.2 per cent rise this year. The dispute has already cost the company more than £120 million in unofficial strikes.

The company believe they would have to cover shortfalls by ordering cars from continental plants if the dispute became entrenched. Ford exports are worth about £1.4 billion a year. Meanwhile, more than 2,000 craftsmen throughout Ford decided yesterday to demand an exclusive pay grade.

The National Joint Crafts Trades Group warned after its first meeting in Birmingham that the skilled men could consider striking alone, even if the rest of the workforce rejected industrial action.

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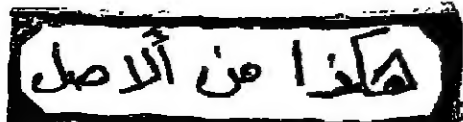
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# Mother's death cost girl the chance to be a queen, court told

By Ruth Gledhill

A girl, aged 6, was deprived of her chance of becoming a wealthy African queen when her mother died after a simple nose operation went wrong, a court was told yesterday.

Jennifer Oduro, now aged 12, who was born in Britain, had a good chance one day of succeeding to the throne, called the Stool of the matrilineal Akan tribe in the eastern region of Ghana, because her mother was expected to be the next queen mother, the High Court in London heard. She lost the chance when her mother died at Whips Cross hospital, Leytonstone, London, in July 1983.

Mrs Letitia Yaa Akoma Oduro, aged 32, died two days after an operation to wash her sinuses out. The court was told that during an emergency attempt to resuscitate her an air tube was put down the oesophagus instead of the trachea and her stomach inflated instead of her lungs was inflated. Waltham Forest Health Authority admitted liability for the accident last month.

Mr Peter Latham, counsel for the administrators of Mrs Oduro's estate, said Mrs Oduro, a princess, was "by far the strongest candidate to succeed".

She had two part-time jobs, as a chambermaid and laundry attendant in two London hotels but she would have returned to Ghana to become the next queen mother. The

present queen, Mrs Abena Gyamfi, is aged about 71. There she would have expected a gross annual income of about £45,000.

Her daughter would have followed her to Ghana where they would have lived with as many servants as they wished in the 13-room royal palace. The single storey brick building has a corrugated sheet iron roof, no main electricity or running water and bucket latrines for toilets. Water is collected by hand from nearby rivers. But the queen mother is the true matriarch of the 500,000-strong tribe.

Mr Latham said up to 500 tenants would have visited her every 40 days, with a £10 gift of cash or crops from the rich cocoa growing land around her seat at Abene.

In addition, the other members of the tribe pay £10 each day to the tribal elders who give one-third to the paramount chief, tribal equivalent of king. One-tenth of his portion goes to the queen mother.

The queen "has great power and influence and is the person who chooses the paramount chief". Mr Latham said she was the senior person in the tribe. Succession passes down to her sisters, daughters and nieces.

Mr Steven Asante, aged 45, of Cologne Road, Battersea, London, who gave evidence in full trial last month, said Mrs

Oduro was his "true blood sister". She spoke fluent Twi, the tribal language.

He and his wife took Jennifer in after the death of her mother, although Jennifer had first learnt of her mother's death on Sunday.

He said Jennifer had never been to Ghana and did not speak Twi.

Mr Latham told Mr Justice Otton that at one stage the family attempted to persuade Jennifer that her Aunt Mary was her mother.

The administrators of the estate are claiming £460,000 damages under the 1976 Fatal Accidents Act. Mr Latham said the claim included more than £8,000 funeral expenses.

They were higher than normal, partly because of the cost of shipping Mrs Oduro's hi-fi, cooker, fridge and tribal clothes back to Ghana as it was "taboo" to dispose of them in this country.

The claim also includes the cost of a four-day thanksgiving service which took place at a Presbyterian church in Ghana.

Mr Stephen Miller, for Waltham Forest health authority said he would be calling expert anthropological evidence to prove that Mrs Oduro would not necessarily have succeeded to the Stool had she survived.

He said the figures quoted for the amounts given to the Stool were "wildly inflated."

## Project aims to ease court fears for victims of crime

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Victims of crime and witnesses will be helped to cope with the trauma of appearing in court under a project being launched in seven crown courts nation-wide with funding from the Home Office.

The project, set up by the charity Victim Support, involves trained volunteers, supervised by full-time co-ordinators, being available to explain to victims and witnesses the court layout and procedures and give information and emotional support.

It will involve the co-operation of judges, the Crown Prosecution Service, probation service, police, and court staff.

The scheme follows a report in 1988 from a Victim Support working party which uncovered widespread anxiety over court appearances.

The report showed that victims were overawed by the court setting; did not understand what would happen when they went into the witness box; and they were not

kept informed about the progress of their case.

Launching the scheme yesterday, Lord Windlesham, former Home Office minister and former chairman of the Parole Board, said that the project was "far-reaching".

"A just society depends on the reporting of crime and the giving of evidence. Victims are central to that process, yet until now they often appear to have been ignored."

The criminal justice system needed to find ways of exploring what was happening to victims and why, and listening to what they had to say.

Users of the scheme will be referred by court officials, the police or the Crown Prosecution Service.

Miss Helen Reeves, Victim Support director, said yesterday: "Most victims and witnesses have never been inside a court before. They have no idea what to expect and are often shocked by the insensitivity of the legal process ... Many leave court

feeling that the experience was worse than the crime itself."

The project is already under way at Maidstone, Kent, and Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. Wood Green, north London; Newcastle; Preston; Liverpool, and Manchester are the other centres.

The Home Office is contributing £14,000 for each court co-ordinator and the rest of the running costs will come from charitable donations. The two-year project will be assessed by researchers from Birmingham University.

If successful, it may be extended to all crown courts in England and Wales.

Yesterday a mother, "Karen", who had been helped by Victim Support at Maidstone, said she had gone to court after her daughter aged five was abused by a neighbour. "It frightened the life out of me; the whole set-up." Her anxiety was greatly eased by a Victim Support volunteer, she said.

Prison "lottery", page 5

## Black guardsman challenges the Army



Mr Winston Lindsay arriving at the industrial tribunal in London yesterday and on duty as a Grenadier Guard at the Guards' Depot at Pirbright, Surrey.

A black guardsman vilified by colleagues in the Grenadier Guards launched a legal campaign yesterday against the Ministry of Defence for alleged racial discrimination (Michael Horsnell writes).

Mr Winston Lindsay was discharged from the Army when he went absent without leave after allegedly being ridiculed and bullied, including having his head held under water until he feared he would drown.

Mr Lindsay, aged 25, of Hammersmith, west London, tried to rejoin the Army last year but was turned down.

In a test case at an industrial tribunal brought by the Commission for Racial Equality, which is seeking to show that

black soldiers suffer discrimination, he challenged the Army's refusal to re-enlist him. Mr Lindsay, who in January 1988 became only the second black recruit accepted by the Grenadier Guards, was discharged nine months later for going absent without leave.

With the encouragement of an Army careers office, he applied to rejoin last August, but was turned down.

At a preliminary hearing at Ebury Bridge Road, central London, the tribunal ruled that it had the jurisdiction to hear his claim that the refusal amounted to "racial discrimination and victimization".

Mr Lindsay's right to be heard came after an initial representation from the Ministry of Defence that an industrial tribunal was not legally empowered to hear the case.

However, Helen Rogers, for the Treasury Solicitor, withdrew the objection. She said there had been "considerable confusion" over the nature of the case.

Legal argument will continue over the extent to which Mr Lindsay can back his case with allegations of racism. Such complaints from serving soldiers are normally dealt with internally by the Army.

After the hearing, Mr Lindsay, now a warehouseman, said: "I just want to get back in the Army. I am very happy with the way things are going."

Mr John Whitmore, legal director for the commission, which is representing him, said: "This case is important because there have been a number of allegations of harassment in the Army. Here is a case where the industrial tribunal has jurisdiction over part of what has happened."

"We say the harassment and way Mr Lindsay was treated may well have influenced the subsequent decision of the Army to refuse to allow him to re-enlist. But there is going to be an issue as to how far we can bring evidence about his experience in the Army and how far that bore on the issue of his re-enlistment."

Mr Whitmore confirmed that, under Queen's Regulations, Mr Lindsay should have declared a conviction for actual bodily harm before joining the guards, but had failed to do so. The case was adjourned until March 5 to discuss admissibility of evidence.

Blacks and Asians in the Armed Forces number only 9,510, or 3 per cent, of the total strength of 317,000.

The Ministry of Defence will publish a report today by Peat, Marwick and McLintock, the City analysts, on the problems of recruiting ethnic minorities. It is said to contain "unpalatable facts".

There are few black senior NCOs. The commission alleges black servicemen have poor promotion prospects, are "noticeably absent" on big ceremonial occasions and frequently face brutal attacks.

### Budget projections

## Manchester could face £733 poll tax

By David Walker

Tory strategists anxious to recover the political initiative over the community charge yesterday seized on budget projections from Labour-controlled Manchester showing that "creative accounting" deals entered into during the 1980s could push the city's poll tax up to £733 an adult.

Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, is understood to be considering whether and when to use his "tax-capping" powers. As with rate-capping, he is empowered to intervene and force a local authority to levy a poll tax at a level he considers appropriate, leaving the council to cut its costs accordingly.

Though Manchester is unlikely to settle its final figure until close to the March 11

deadline, forward projection by financial officials has embarrassed councillors' alleged efforts to blame poll tax levels in excess of Whitehall targets on inadequate government grants.

Mr Graham Stringer, leader of Manchester council — where Labour has a more than 50-seat majority — was yesterday in an all-day meeting of the policy committee.

Manchester's poll tax was always going to be higher than the £315 a person target given to it by the Department of the Environment. Other metropolitan districts facing problems similar to Manchester, including likely pay settlements for council officials well above the Government's norm, are projecting poll tax

levels £100 above target. At £400 above target, Manchester's projection will be blamed on the council. It is obliged by law to tell Mr Patten of its projected poll tax. After securing the agreement of Parliament Mr Patten can then adjust the figure as he pleases.

The capping procedures however take time and Manchester poll tax payers might not finally know their dues until May or even later.

Manchester's 1990-91 budget is projected to grow by more than 7 per cent in real terms — in addition to the 7 per cent that most councils are allowing for inflation in 1989-90.

The main reason for the growth is the need to make payments under several "deferred purchase" plans entered into by the council between 1986 and last year. Many city councils and London boroughs entered such arrangements in which they contracted with a financial institution to sell an asset (including in some cases town halls and street lamps) in exchange for a large loan on which interest payments would be deferred for a limited number of years.

Manchester's options include trying to defer payments for another year — with the likelihood that poll tax levels then will be even higher — or trying to cut expenditure.

Manchester's committees are already supposed to be examining options for reducing expenditure in such areas as education and cleaning.

## Channel 4 in £40m campaign

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Films are the centrepiece of a £40 million winter season of programmes announced by Channel 4 yesterday.

A new season of *Film on Four* will include the British television premiere of 16 or more films made for the cinema which were financed largely by the channel. They include *Wish You Were Here*, starring Emily Lloyd.

The most extensive season devoted to women's cinema. *Women Call the Shots*, will include 28 feature films, animation features and documentaries from around the world, including *Rue Cases Negres* by Euzhan Palcy.

A new strand of one-hour documentaries, a live rock programme, a new situation comedy and the return of *Out on Tuesday*, a series for homosexual people, will also figure prominently on Channel 4 between February and Easter.

● Television and radio coverage of environment and Third World issues could be cut drastically if deregulatory proposals in the broadcasting Bill become law, a report by the Third World and Environment Broadcasting Project said yesterday. Groups including Oxfam and Friends of the Earth called for a third of ITV and Channel 5 programmes to be factual.

● Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of News Corporation, is leading a delegation of company executives to Eastern Europe, including Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland and Hungary. News International recently purchased 50 per cent shares in two Budapest newspapers.

● David Yallop, a writer for the *Evening Standard* television series, is claiming damages from the BBC for alleged breach of contract.

## 'Corporate culture must allow for career breaks'

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

Employers must encourage larger numbers of women to return to work after they have had children or face a huge shortfall in skills and a resulting over-heating of the labour market well into the 1990s, according to a comprehensive survey by the Institute of Manpower Studies.

Researchers at the institute found that, while companies will be looking for an extra 1.5 million workers over the next five years, the number of additional employees seeking work will be 912,000 — 83 per cent of them women.

However, employers will find it difficult to attract women and keep them unless they set up so-called "career-break" programmes, which allow women to take time away from work to start a family and return to the same jobs.

In their report, *Good Practices in Employment of Women Returners*, Mr Amin Rajan and Mrs Penny van Eupen say, however, that the provision of crèche facilities "is not the panacea that it has been made out to be".

They say that a good

scheme "should focus on child care and child support over the whole cycle, rather than the earliest formative years".

In a survey of 12 main companies, the researchers found an increasing need for day-care facilities. They say

the facilities should be publicly funded, claiming that general provision would reduce costs.

They point to the lead of other European countries in providing child care for working parents. Mrs van Eupen

said that in France, the authorities had a statutory obligation under the *Maternité* system to provide nursery education for all children.

The report says that most of the growth in employment will be in skilled areas that attract highly-qualified women. In the next five years, female employment will increase by 10 per cent, compared with 4 per cent for men.

"The next generation of female jobs are likely to be in skilled categories covering managerial, administrative, scientific, engineering, health and other professions," the report says.

Employers are increasingly interested in retaining female employees, the report claims, because they are flexible, better at teamwork and more adaptable to change than men.

They are also "co-operative rather than competitive and better at working in groups", the researchers say.

The report recommends that career-break programmes, still at a nascent stage in Britain, need to become part of the corporate culture, and

Newcastle, who was refused a grant to assist with the care of two-year-old triplets while he attended an employment training scheme.

A local Social Fund officer had based the refusal on the grounds that "the law says that we cannot pay for the kind of items that you say you need".

The officer had no doubt reached this decision with regard to directions issued by the Secretary of State indicating that there was no discretion to make payments in respect of domestic assistance and respite care.

Mr Drabble told Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Pill that this brought sharply into focus "the ability

### Women and work

## 'Corporate culture must allow for career breaks'

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Mr Drabble told Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Pill that this brought sharply into focus "the ability

of the Secretary of State to issue a direction, as he claims to have done, excluding particular categories of need from consideration at all under the scheme".

The second case concerned Mr Derek Roberts, of Wybourn, Sheffield, a father of seven who had been unemployed for about eight years. He was refused a grant to help with removal expenses to a five-bedroom house.

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## Sprinter jailed for killing son aged two

By Ray Clancy

A former athlete who won two gold medals at the 1962 Commonwealth Games was jailed for five years yesterday after he pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of his son aged two.

Serafino Antao, aged 51, was looking after his son Andrew at home in Sittingbourne, Kent, last January when the boy died, Maidstone Crown Court heard.

Mrs Janet Antao, a tax consultant, arrived home from work to find her son lying dead face-down on his bed.

Her husband lay nearby, covered in blood, after trying to kill himself with an electric carving knife, the court was told.

Mr Brian Leary QC, for the prosecution, said Antao began drinking heavily and became depressed.

He sometimes acted violently towards his wife and on one occasion she called the police after he beat her.

When she began earning more than he did Antao stayed at home while she went out to work and he became even more depressed.

At the end of 1988 Antao told his wife that one day she would come home and find both him and their son dead.

Antao said in the statement he was so depressed he de-

cided to kill himself. He ran a bath and got in after putting an electric lamp in the water.

He said he received a shock, then his son appeared in the bathroom and fell in.

A pathologist found the boy died from electrocution and drowning.

Antao, who won his medals running for Kenya in the 100 and 200 yard sprints in Perth, Australia, then swallowed half a bottle of tablets, some cough mixture and kitchen cleaner before plunging in the knife and trying to kill himself.

The court heard Antao had had a glittering athletics career.

Mr Tom Clarke, sports editor of *The Times*, described him as a "national hero" who was responsible for bringing Asian and African athletics together for the first time.

"He was a dignified and gentle man concerned for his fellow beings," Mr Clarke said.

Antao denied murder but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility.

He sobbed as the judge Mr Justice Boreham passed sentence and told him: "I have no doubt at the time this little boy's life was terminated, a very substantial responsibility remained."

### ADVERTISEMENT

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tential clients cannot afford the expertise of big agencies. But affordable smaller agencies sometimes lack the skills to make their clients' advertising really work. That's where we come in."

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# Church leaders reaffirm commitment to Christian unity

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Editor

The three principal leaders of English Christianity — the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council — publicly committed themselves anew last night to work for the unity of the Church.

They were taking part in a service at Westminster Cathedral, attended by hundreds of leaders and representatives of more than 30 denominations, to celebrate the official entry of the Roman Catholic Church into the modern

ecumenical movement 25 years ago. It was the main national event marking this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and it also marked the creation of new church unity bodies which will take over the work of the British Council of Churches later this year.

Cardinal Basil Hume of Westminster warned them that the church unity movement may face years of frustration and incomprehension before it succeeds. "Discouragement does at times tend to damp enthusiasm, and I for one must admit to occasional bouts of it."

They had to resist the temptation to take short cuts, he said. True ecumenism

needed integrity and a fearless search for truth. As an example of an undesirable short cut he reminded them of the rule restricting the reception of Holy Communion in Catholic churches to those who were already Catholics.

The Second Vatican Council made ecumenism a duty for all Roman Catholics, he said. The baptism they shared with non-Catholics established a sacramental bond of unity between them. But it was incomplete.

The service, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's decree on ecumenism, was also addressed by the Archbishop of

Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council, the Rev John Newton.

Dr Runcie said no ecumenical initiative could fully succeed today without Roman Catholic participation. He praised the influence of three Roman Catholics on the church unity movement, particularly Cardinal John Henry Newman, the centenary of whose death is being commemorated this year. Newman's studies on the development of doctrine had set the scene for future ecumenical progress. "I am glad that our own church and most other communions have not yet begun to think

seriously about this."

There were difficulties ahead, but "the price of greater unity is that we care as friends and not as competitors about the things we don't like in each other's churches. That is a major shift."

He also praised Pope John XXIII, under whose influence the Roman Catholic Church had made a major change in its self-understanding with regard to other churches, by no longer insisting that "the Church of God" was exclusively to be found within its own ranks. And he said without Pope John's successor, Pope Paul VI, the work for unity with other churches initiated by

the Second Vatican Council would not have made the progress it did.

Dr Newton, a Methodist, drew attention to the growing interest among Protestants and Anglicans in the Virgin Mary, particularly through the growing international and trans-denominational membership of the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

If it was God's will that the churches should be one, "then whatever the prevailing winds we must press on with our pilgrimage together". He did not believe the ecumenical movement had run into the sand.

Leading article, page 13

## Experts seek urgent research into risk of 'mad cow' disease

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Specialists advising the Government on the cattle disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), are worried that it may be more hazardous than has been acknowledged publicly by Mr John Gummer, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Mr Gummer insisted in Brussels yesterday that British beef was safe and demanded the lifting of West German import restrictions.

However, a report by a consultative committee on research into spongiform encephalopathies, which was submitted to the Ministry last June and published only two weeks ago, discloses anxieties about the possibility of the disease spreading to other species, including humans.

The report questions assumptions upon which present policies to control its spread are based. It calls for a number of urgent research projects into BSE. Many are to be funded with the grants amounting to £12 million announced by the Government to coincide with the publication of the report.

"We need to be reassured that further spread in cattle or to new species will not take place. We need to be sure that the disease really came from sheep and to know whether it is likely to establish itself long-term in bovines," the committee says.

"Some uncertainty remains as to whether all possible routes of transmission from bovine and ovine [sheep] tissues to other species have been considered and appro-

priate action taken." International researchers agree that scrapie is not the cause of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), a rare and incurable brain disease in humans. However, the report says: "It is urgent that the same reassurance can be given about the lack of effect of BSE on human health. The best way of doing this is to monitor all UK cases of CJD over the next two decades."

IF BSE were to prove to be a risk to humans, the committee warns that "it must not be assumed that cases would present as typical CJD, but perhaps might have atypical features".

The monitoring of these cases should include examples of potential "high risk" groups, such as slaughtermen, veterinary surgeons and patients regularly receiving drugs derived from cattle products.

The committee says that spongiform encephalopathies have not been found in domesticated species other than sheep, goats and cattle. "It is possible, however, that other species may prove susceptible to BSE, or that while not themselves showing typical signs of infection, they may have the potential to pass BSE on to other animals, perhaps even including man."

Experience with scrapie suggests that many species may be susceptible to BSE. With this in mind, the health of species which are fed sheep offal must be monitored. These include pigs, pet cats and dogs and poultry.

Cats have been shown to be susceptible to experimental infection with spongiform encephalopathies, the committee says.

It says it is essential that researchers measure BSE infectivity in a range of cattle organs, tissue and secretions which could transmit the disease to other animals and to man. Included under these are the heart, liver, kidneys, muscle, milk, semen and embryos.

The report says many of the practical measures taken by the Ministry, such as the compulsory slaughter of cattle affected by BSE and a ban on the feeding to cattle of protein derived from sheep products, were based on "shrewd judgements" of the analogy between the disease and scrapie in sheep.

However, if preliminary studies showed these judgements were incorrect, it would be essential to have well-documented facts available so that the present policies could be effectively revised, the report says.

The committee was chaired by Dr David Tyrrell, former director of the Medical Research Council's Common Cold Unit. He said yesterday: "Not all of the questions we raised are going to be answered. In the real world, there are not enough people and not enough money to do all we suggest."

He added: "I am not clear which of the research projects we recommended will be funded and which will not."

Letters, page 13

## Canova's £7.6m 'Three Graces' on show

STEPHEN MARKSON



Canova's 'The Three Graces' on public view yesterday for the first time in five years in the lofty entrance hall at the V&A.

A race began yesterday to raise £7.6 million in seven weeks to prevent Canova's 'The Three Graces' being exported to the Getty Museum, Malibu, California.

Mrs Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, launched the appeal as the neo-classical statue symbolizing beauty was put on public view for the first time in five years.

"We have only seven weeks to raise the money for this extraordinarily beautiful sculpture which so clearly belongs in England and is such an essential part of the English cultural heritage," she said.

Funding sources such as the National Heritage Memorial Fund and corporate donors would be approached. "But above all, we rely on the generosity of the British public," she said as the appeal began with £250,000 from the National Art Collections Fund.

Sir Peter Wakefield, director of the fund, said the campaign would be a test of govern-

ment rules on the export of works of art.

"It has been working well, but the prices now are such that it is under terrible strain. This is a test case of how well it is able to continue to work. It all depends on whether there is enough money in the system," he said.

"The object is something that everybody agrees is a prime thing to retain and we shall fight all we can to retain it, but the system itself will also be under examination."

The export mechanism used to control the sale of works of art abroad was praised at a seminar organized by the fund last November. However, Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the fund, said that if it could not save work of the quality of the Canova it would rightly lose the confidence of the art world and the nation.

The sculpture was sold by the Tavistock family to an anonymous buyer for £1.25 million in 1985 and is being offered to the Getty Museum for £7.6 million by an anonymous company based in the Cayman Islands. The V&A has until March 12 to match the price.

The heritage lobby believes the mystery over ownership may hinder the effectiveness of a public appeal. Only Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, and Mr Jonathan Scott, chairman of the Government Reviewing Committee for the Export of Works of Art, know the owner's name. Mrs Esteve-Coll said: "We buy at auction and confidentiality is part of the normal process."

Save Britain's Heritage launched an emergency report yesterday in which Sir Ernest Gomulick, the art historian, said future generations "will never forgive us if we allow one of Canova's masterpieces to leave this country."

Mr Scott, a contributor to the report, called for the reintroduction of the "indefinite stop" on important art works.

### Arts funding

## Poll tax casts doubt over council cash

By Simon Tait  
Arts Correspondent

Local authorities in England and Wales account for more than a third of all arts funding, according to a survey by the National Campaign for the Arts (NCA).

However, their support, at present amounting to £188 million a year, could be threatened by the poll tax and the uniform business rate, says the NCA in its report, *The NCA Local Arts League*.

The report discloses that the South-east and the Home Counties are among the least generous to the arts. West Sussex, which contains the Shoreham constituency of Mr Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts, spends less than any other county, at 5p per person. This compares with average spending of £5.11 per person in England and Wales, and places West Sussex at the bottom of a list of 39 counties. The most generous of these is Leicestershire, which spends £3.44 per person.

Sharing joint second from bottom, spending 9p per person, are Essex, East Sussex and Hertfordshire.

### LOCAL AUTHORITY ARTS EXPENDITURE 1989/90

	£ per head
London (inc City)	12.84
London (exc City)	4.47
Metropolitan Districts	4.05
Non-Metropolitan Areas*	
England	4.34
Wales	4.69
Total	5.11

\*Areas include an aggregation of spending by county councils and by districts within county areas.

### SELECTED CITIES

	£ per head
1 Swansea	13.07
2 Southampton	12.47
3 Portsmouth	12.36
4 Kingston-upon-Hull	12.20
5 Nottingham	12.16
6 Stoke-on-Trent	9.63
7 Bristol	7.78
8 Leicester	7.43
9 Plymouth	6.79
10 Cardiff	5.82

### WELSH COUNTIES

	£ per head
1 Clwyd	4.31
2 Gwynedd	1.46
3 Dyfed	1.23
4 South Glamorgan	0.91
5 West Glamorgan	0.16
6 Mid Glamorgan	0.07

Omitted: Powys and Gwent for failing to return forms for at least two years.

### METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS

	£ per head
1 Bradford	0.28
2 Newcastle-upon-Tyne	0.08
3 Wolverhampton	0.09
4 Sheffield	0.43
5 Coventry	0.41
6 Birmingham	0.30
7 Kirkcaldy	0.01
8 Leeds	0.48
9 Colchester	0.77
10 Salford	0.22
11 Sunderland	0.94
12 Bolton	0.86
13 Barnsley	0.79
14 Wigan	0.65
15 Rotherham	0.32
16 Doncaster	0.28
17 South Tyneside	0.19
18 Salford	0.22
19 Dudley	0.22
20 Stockport	0.20
21 Wirral	1.39
22 Gateshead	1.69
23 Oldham	1.72
24 Bury	1.47
25 St Helens	1.22
26 Trafford	1.21
27 Knowsley	0.97
28 Rochdale	0.97
29 Walsley	0.97
30 Sandwell	0.87
31 Liverpool	0.80
32 Solihull	0.50

Omitted: Manchester, North Tyneside, Tameside, and Wakefield, for failing to return forms for at least two years.

\*Figures refer to 1988/89. (All figures are from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, *Leisure and Recreation Estimates, 1989/90*.)

### ENGLISH COUNTIES

	£ per head
1 Leicestershire	3.44
2 Norfolk	2.16
3 Isle of Wight	2.13
4 Lincolnshire	2.09
5 Oxfordshire	2.06
6 Cleveland	1.51
7 Durham	1.29
8 Nottinghamshire	1.19
9 Somerset	1.14
10 Warwickshire	1.11
11 Hampshire	1.08
12 Shropshire	1.06
13 Derbyshire	1.04
14 North Yorkshire	0.96
15 Staffordshire	0.88
16 Lancashire	0.85
17 Northumberland	0.80
18 Suffolk	0.71
19 Cheshire	0.70
20 Devon	0.64
21 Buckinghamshire	0.60
22 Wiltshire	0.59
23 Humberside	0.56
24 Bedfordshire	0.44
25 Cornwall	0.41
26 Avon	0.36
27 Hereford and Worcester	0.31
28 Kent	0.29
29 Gloucestershire	0.28
30 Dorset	0.27
31 Cumbria	0.26
32 Northamptonshire	0.22
33 Cambridgeshire	0.21
34 Surrey	0.14
35 Berkshire	0.12
36 Essex	0.09
37 East Sussex	0.08
38 Hertfordshire	0.08
39 West Sussex	0.05

Omitted: Manchester, North Tyneside, Tameside, and Wakefield, for failing to return forms for at least two years.

\*Figures refer to 1988/89.

## Promoter faces fraud charges

Ambrose Mendy, the sports promoter, appeared in court yesterday charged with nine offences of fraud involving almost £2 million. The original charge of conspiracy to defraud a bank was dropped.

Mr Mendy, aged 35, the chairman of the World Sports Corporation, was remanded on bail until March 5 by Guildhall Magistrates' Court in the City of London.

Mr Stephen Barraclough, for the prosecution, said the nine new offences faced by Mr Mendy, of Draycott Road, Wanstead, north-west London, included alleged attempts to defraud the Austria and New Zealand Bank of £820,000 and the Banque Nationale de Paris of £354,000 by using forged letters of authority.

### Bat delay

A £10-million project to create an historical centre in a former foundry near Falmouth, Cornwall faces a year's delay after bats, a protected species, were found in the roof.

### Crime statistic

The Post Office has apologized to the publishers of *Justice of the Peace*, the weekly paper for magistrates, after an envelope containing annual crime statistics arrived five months late because it was stolen.

### Kidnap charge

Terry Simmons, vice-president of Darlington Chamber of Trade, Co Durham, was remanded in custody by magistrates in the town accused of abducting a local property developer and demanding £50,000 with menaces.

### Pub buyout

Regulars at the Roebuck Inn at Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, angry that the public house has had four owners in five years, are hoping to raise £225,000 to buy it themselves.

### Race case rise

Cases of racial harassment reported by Sheffield City Council tenants have risen from 37 to 85 in a year.

### Litter free

Nature-lovers are to be admitted free of charge to Margam Deer Park, near Port Talbot, South Wales, on condition they help clear up litter.

## EC bike directive 'courting disaster'

By Libby Jukes

Safety regulations issued by the European Commission classifying small bicycles as toys may be "courting disaster", according to Mr Sandy Roberts, managing director of Raleigh Industries.

Raleigh, Britain's largest bicycle manufacturer, ceased production of children's bicycles on January 1 when an EC toy-safety directive was extended to models with a saddle height of 435-635mm.

The directive, which has been incorporated into British standards legislation, requires such bicycles to be fitted with single fixed-wheel, spoon or back-pedal brakes, because a child is deemed incapable of exerting sufficient force to operate a calliper system.

"The toy standards are fine for a front-wheel-drive trike," Mr Roberts said, "but it is administrative nonsense to

apply them to pavement cycles, where the child's feet are not readily in contact with the ground. We will not manufacture bikes with less braking requirement, because it would mean models used by children as old as eight going out which are fundamentally unsafe."

Mr David Jenkins, Consumer Safety Adviser to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, agreed.

"There are tens of thousands of accidents every year involving children falling off bikes because they brake too suddenly and become unstable," he said. "Calliper brakes are safer because they enable a gradual application of force. Fitted to small bikes, they are a useful educational aid for teaching children to manipulate deceleration before they move on to an adult-sized frame."

## Coffee to cost 20p less as world prices slump

By Paul Wilkinson

Coffee prices in the shops should drop significantly in the next few weeks, the makers said yesterday.

Nestlé intends to cut 20p from the cost of a 100gm jar of coffees such as Gold Blend and Nescafé, and Kraft General Foods is considering similar reductions for its brands, which include Maxwell House and Kenco.

The announcements follow a big fall in the world price of coffee, which, until now, has not been matched by reductions in retail prices. In some

cases, the price of instant coffee has continued to rise, in spite of a reduction in world prices by as much as half.

Last month Mr John Gummer, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, referred coffee prices to the Office of Fair Trading for investigation. Last weekend Mr Nigel Griffiths, Labour's consumer affairs spokesman, urged a speedy conclusion to the investigation in the light of the apparent discrepancy between prices on the world market and in the shops.

"We might have expected it to come before Christmas, but the hot summer meant a drop in coffee consumption, so it has taken a little longer. We

still have to take into account the relationship between sterling and the dollar, which is the currency used to buy coffee, the rate of inflation and interest charges."

The company said that retail prices had not exactly reflected the fall on the world market because there had been a demand for more expensive beans, such as Arabica, for use in higher quality blends.

Within the next few weeks, the price of instant coffee would be as low as it was in 1985, Nestlé said. It claimed that

British consumers already paid less for instant coffee than most Europeans.

A 100gm jar of Gold Blend costs £2.70 in West Germany, or £2.18 in France, compared with £1.89 in Britain, the company said. Kraft General Foods said it was considering its position and expected to announce a price-cut shortly.

The Consumers' Association said it hoped the inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading would examine whether a monopoly existed or whether there was price-fixing.

## Ban on child abuse publicity criticized

By David Sappedel and Michael Horsnell

A decision by a High Court judge to ban almost any public disclosures or discussion arising out of allegations of child sex abuse at a council-run home, aroused widespread criticism yesterday.

The local authority has obtained injunctions preventing its councillors and staff, as well as investigating police officers, from talking about the alleged offences.

The court orders also prohibit the press from identifying the home or the area of the country, and even the name of the judge who granted the injunctions in the Family Division of the High Court.

Mr Maurice Frankel, director of the Freedom of Information Campaign, said: "It would take a lot for me to be convinced that such a widespread ban was justified. Unfortunately, the use of the courts to gag public debate on important issues is becoming more common, with the Government itself too often leading the way in recent years."

"After the alleged child abuses came to light in Cleveland there was a wide and important public debate on

what constituted child abuse. Nobody argued at the time that there should have been court action to hush up the whole thing."

Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Littleborough and Saddleworth, and a leading campaigner against child abuse, called for an inquiry. "It's very disturbing there should be any hint of a cover-up in a borough which has not distinguished itself in child protection," he said.

It is understood that the council's director of social services sought the injunctions to prevent any repetition of a recent leak by a councillor of a confidential report on the case of a teenager in care in an unrelated case.

The Solicitors' Family Law Association said: "The courts have to draw a fine line between the public interest and the interests of the victims. Obviously, courts are concerned to protect the identity of children who could be damaged by publicity."

"However, in trying to strike this balance, courts sometimes do make injunctions that are much wider than necessary."



# Crown court prison sentences 'resemble a national lottery'

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Big discrepancies in the use of custody by crown courts is highlighted in a report published today by the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO), which says sentencing in higher courts "resembles a national lottery".

In 1988, prison terms were imposed, on average, in just over 50 per cent of cases at first-tier courts — those handling the most serious offences such as murder and rape — compared with 38 per cent at Mold Crown Court, Chwyd, and 69 per cent at Wood Green, north London.

Equally wide disparities were found at tier-three courts, with judges at Portsmouth jailing 33 per cent of defendants and those at Coventry jailing 63 per cent.

The report said the differences were less sharp in second-tier courts, although there were worrying inconsistencies. At Oxford, custody was imposed in 63 per cent of cases, compared with 44 per cent at Durham.

A similar pattern emerged when the association examined sentences imposed for non-violent indictable offences in 1987. In North

Wales, only 5.8 per cent of defendants aged 17 to 20 convicted of theft and handling stolen goods were jailed. In neighbouring Cheshire, the figure was 16 per cent.

Burglary ranged from 22.2 per cent in Dorset, 23.8 per cent in Gloucestershire, 43.7 per cent in Merseyside to 46 per cent in Cheshire.

Disparities affecting adult offenders were little better with defendants convicted in Cleveland of causing criminal damage four times more likely to go to prison than those in Powys, central Wales.

The association says the discrepancies, which it claims are also evident in the use of non-custodial options, stem from the lack of an agreed national sentencing framework and the effect of "local, often erratic sentencing cultures".

It says the solution lies with the creation of an independent sentencing council geared to cutting the use of prison to all but the most serious cases, the introduction of "stringent criteria" governing the use of custody and a review of the Lord Chancellor's powers to appoint and retire judges.

The survey results appear a

fortnight before the publication of the White Paper on criminal justice, one of whose key objects is to reduce the courts' use of custody for less serious offenders.

Mr Harry Fletcher, NAPO's assistant general secretary, was sceptical of the strategy. "The expected absence of any effective recommendations for controls on the judiciary's ability to imprison could even result in an increase in the jail population," he said.

● Inmates smashed a door and cracked open a metal safe in a shop run by prison officers to steal tobacco and batteries worth £500.

The raid was the second within a year on the shop at the low-security Channings Wood Prison, near Newton Abbot, South Devon. Mr Joe Mullens, the governor, said yesterday several prisoners had been interviewed by the police.

● Six inmates were overcome by smoke when a cell was set alight at a youth custody centre early yesterday. Officers evacuated 54 prisoners at Mount Bovingdon, Hertfordshire, after a mattress was set alight. Fire officers took an hour to put out the blaze.

# Duck stars at RSPCA stamp launch



Robert Hardy, the actor, more familiar as the vet Siegfried Farnon in the BBC TV series *All Creatures Great and Small*, loses control of Annie, the Aylesbury duck, at the launch of a set of four commemorative stamps issued today (Paul Wilkinson writes).

Royal Charter to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

A duckling appears on the 34p stamp (right) for airmail to North America. A puppy is on the 37p for airmail to Australia, a rabbit on the 29p for overseas postcards and a kitten is on the 20p for first class mail. Mr Tony Evans, the designer, said: "I wanted something

to show in a simple way how the RSPCA helps animals. I hope people will look at the animals and say 'How could anyone be cruel to creatures like these?'"

An RSPCA spokesman said: "We are supposed to be a civilized nation, yet we destroy 120,000 animals a year of which 15,000 are unwanted puppies and kittens; 1,000 dogs a day are put down."



## Policemen accused

# Reckless driving denied by officers

A police officer accused of driving recklessly on the M25 said yesterday that on the day he was stopped it was vital that he catch a flight from Heathrow to France.

Chief Supt James Chalmers, of West Midlands police, told St Albans' magistrates, Hertfordshire, that it was crucial that negotiations to buy a £1.1 million helicopter for his force be completed, which was why he had been in a hurry.

The contract had to be signed and operational equipment ordered. The helicopter was due to become operational on April 1 last year.

On March 13, he was a passenger in a car, driven by Chief Insp David Cocker, which was stopped by Hertfordshire police.

The court heard that the two policemen were seen heading south on the M1 in Hertfordshire, driving on the hard shoulder. They drove onto the M25, and again travelled on the hard shoulder, pursued by traffic police. Hertfordshire police said they saw the car, which was going too fast, cause a vehicle to swerve at a motorway entry road.

Mr Chalmers said he instructed Mr Cocker to drive on the hard shoulder to pass slow-moving traffic which was jamming all three lanes. Mr Chalmers said he had not seen a vehicle swerve and that their speed was not excessive.

Mr Chalmers, aged 49, a policeman for 30 years, whose division covers the "spaghetti junction" section of the M6, denies reckless driving. Mr Cocker denies driving recklessly and without due care. Earlier, he told the court that

he had been travelling at 40 mph at most on the hard shoulder. He said he speeded up when he saw the police vehicle behind him, because he thought it might be hurrying to an accident.

Mr Chalmers said that it was crucial that the officers caught the flight to complete the purchase of the helicopter.

He said that unless it had air cover, his force could not give the public the standard of service it had come to expect.

Without an aircraft, the murder of PC Galvin Carlton in Coventry might have become "another Hungerford", he said. After the officer was shot by two bank robbers a police helicopter helped to track down suspects.

The case continues. ● The head of Scotland Yard's press bureau was yesterday banned from the roads for 21 months after drink-driving at the height of the Christmas crackdown on drunken motorists.

Tim Mahony, aged 44, had drunk more than twice the legal limit when he was stopped for speeding at Peace Cottage on the M23 in West Sussex.

Mahony, of Church Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, admitted both offences. He was fined £275 and disqualified for 21 months for drink-driving, and fined £100 for speeding.

Mrs Sally Cole, for the prosecution, told Haywards Heath magistrates that police saw Mahony's Volvo, travelling south at more than 98mph early on December 30.

Mahony refused to comment after leaving the court.

# Future of Roman finds still in doubt

By Simon Tait, Arts Correspondent

Fourth-century Roman burial remains, including three skeletons, that were found last week in London are to be sent to the Museum of London for research, Mr David Miles, the director of the Oxford Archaeological Unit, said yesterday.

His statement allays fears that the finds — a complete skeleton and parts of three others dating a piece of paving 50 square centimetres in size and a brooch — would have to be reinterred immediately. However, confusion persists as to their future.

Mr Miles, whose unit is carrying out the preliminary dig at the site in Redcross Way, Southwark, said Home Office officials and archaeologists from the museum had met last week and agreed that all the finds, and any more from the site, would go to the museum for study.

He had advised City Gate Estates, the developers of the site and therefore the owners of any finds, that the material should go to the museum.

However, Mr Harvey Sheldon, head of the Museum of London's greater London archaeological department, said: "As far as I know, there is no agreement on the material coming to us."

"We would be prepared to take the finds, subject to the wishes of the developer and the local authority. But we haven't agreed to work on the human bones."

He said he had advised the Oxford unit to take advice

from the developers and the local authority as to what they wanted to do with the finds. "If they want them to come to the museum we will have to work out what the cost of archiving and retaining the material would be."

He added that he was relieved that the finds were to be examined and studied before reburial.

"Over the past few years, considerable evidence has come to light of late Roman burial within the previously built up settlement of Southwark. That they should be found on the site presently under investigation should have come as no surprise."

Mr Miles denied allegations by the museum's archaeologists that the evaluation dig at Redcross Way was causing needless damage to the archaeology.

"Because of the financial situation the developers have decided not to develop there for the time being but to refurbish existing buildings with a view to new building in about five years' time. But they would still need to know about the archaeology, and we need to be able to dig to the lowest levels to make a complete report. It is a great deal less damaging than a complete excavation."

"We have not been put under any pressure by the developers, and it's wrong for the museum's archaeologists to infer that we are being unnecessarily hasty."

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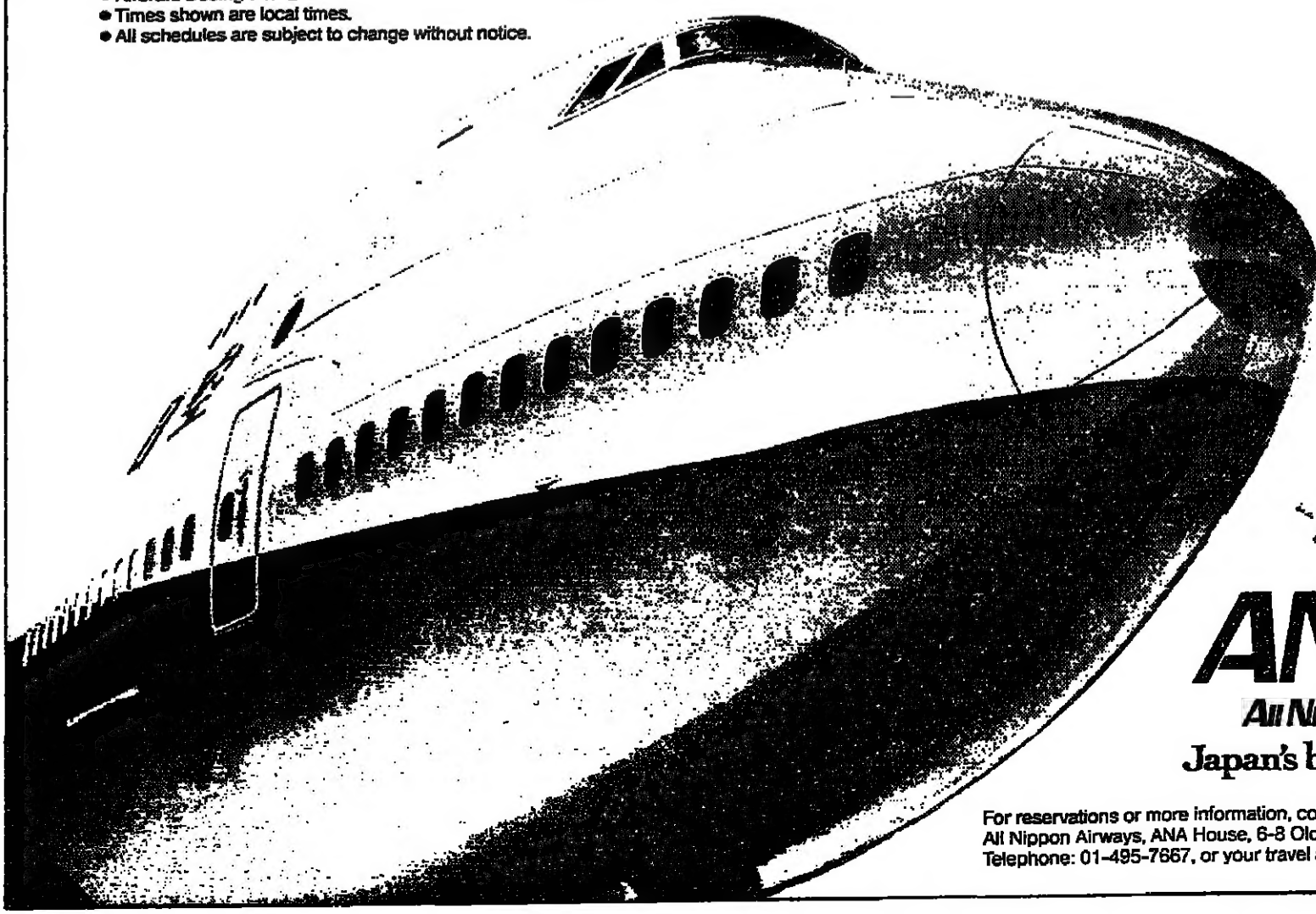
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LONDON (THU.)	NH202 17:00	→ (FRI.)	13:50 TOKYO
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# Delhi crisis talks as 35 die in day of Kashmir violence

From Christopher Thomas, Delhi and Zahid Hussain, Karachi

The Indian Government has summoned all-party crisis talks on the Kashmir valley, which was under an indefinite curfew yesterday after a day of violence that claimed at least 35 lives.

Diplomatic tensions between India and Pakistan continued to escalate, with Islamabad berating Delhi for mishandling the crisis. Pakistan angrily denied Indian accusations that it was helping terrorists smuggle arms across the border.

Pakistan has placed its troops on the Indian border on high alert. While Delhi has charged Islamabad with involvement in Kashmir agitation, Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, is facing mounting pressure from the opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance and other Islamic fundamentalist political parties to support the agitation across the border.

Mr Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, the president of Pakistani Kashmir, who met Miss Bhutto on Sunday, warned that his people might cross the border and start an armed struggle there if the Indian authorities continued their atrocities against Kashmiri Muslims.

The foreign ministers of India and Pakistan held talks in Delhi yesterday on a range of bilateral issues, but Kashmir assumed overwhelming importance.

Miss Bhutto incensed India by declaring that there could be "no compromise" over "the right of self-determination" for the people of Kashmir.

Miss Bhutto presided over a high-level meeting on Sunday to discuss the latest political development in Kashmir. According to a report, she expressed her Government's deep concern over the killings of Kashmiris by the Indian law-enforcement agencies.

The Prime Minister has also summoned a joint session of Parliament in the first week of February to discuss the uprising.

Even as the foreign ministers' talks progressed, Islamabad continued to criticize Delhi, which four days ago placed the state under direct rule after the discredited and much-hated government in Jammu and Kashmir had resigned.

Mr Tanvir Ahmad Khan, the Pakistani Foreign Secretary, the senior civil servant in the Foreign Ministry, said in Islamabad that his Government "categorically rejected" accusations that it was assisting Kashmiri terrorists.

In remarks underlining a sharp escalation of Pakistan's anti-Indian rhetoric on Kashmir, he said that the violence in the valley might mark a new stage "in the resistance of the Kashmiri people to repression".

Given such harsh language, there is little chance of progress in the talks between Islamabad and New Delhi, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, and Mr Inder Gujral, the Indian External Affairs Minister.

After a 90-minute session, Mr Khan called on Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Indian Prime Minister. Mr Singh did not announce when his proposed all-party talks would begin.

It is hard to see what they could achieve, however, given the undeniable fact that the separatist campaign in Kashmir enjoys overwhelming popular support.

More than two dozen ter-

rorist groups propound a variety of aims, but they divide into three camps seeking either independence, unity with Pakistan, or a state-wide referendum on which option to choose.

Srinagar, the state capital, and other urban centres of the valley have been placed under curfew after the violence, which began when police fired on mobs that were defying a curfew. About 100 people were injured. The Army, which keeps large numbers of troops on emergency standby in the city, was called out.

Mr Jagmohan, appointed by Delhi on Friday as the new state governor, yesterday announced a "high-powered agency" to investigate what he called "corruption, nepotism and favouritism".

Corruption, certainly, is one of the key causes of the Kashmir crisis. No Kashmir government since partition in 1947 has been wholly democratic, and the last state election in 1987 was rigged. Mr Jagmohan said poverty and income disparities were the cause of the latest trouble.

The resignation of the state government over Delhi's "interference" in its affairs has been welcomed in the valley, where a bloated bureaucracy has prospered on fraud.

Anybody wanting a job as a teacher can expect to pay a minimum bribe of 10,000 rupees (£400).

Kashmir's youth, among the most educated in India, started acquiring weapons 18 months ago, mostly from arms bazaars in Pakistan. Extremists admit to using training camps in "Azad (free) Kashmir" on the Pakistani side of the line of control — camps that Islamabad claims to know nothing about.

# Boat people refugees arrive in Britain



A Vietnamese father and his child after arriving at Heathrow from a Hong Kong refugee camp yesterday to join other members of their family who are already in Britain. They were among a party of 45 Vietnamese boat people, the first of about 2,000 who are to settle here this year.

A senior member of the Hong Kong's Legislative Council arrived at Heathrow yesterday for talks with Mrs Thatcher today at which he and colleagues will press for an increase in the pace at which democracy is to be introduced in the colony, regardless of the wishes of the Chinese Government (Michael Knipe writes).

"We are here to ask the British Government for the pace of democracy in Hong Kong to be speeded up as the people wish," Mr Allen Lee, the senior member of the colony's Legislative Council, said at the airport.

Together with Dame Lydia Dunn, the senior member of the Executive Council, he will urge the Government to ensure that at least half the legislature should be elected by 1997

when sovereignty is to be transferred to China. To accede to this demand would put Britain on a collision course with Peking, and there were no indications in Whitehall yesterday that the Government would adopt such dramatic measures.

At a meeting in Canton at the weekend Peking delegates proposed that only 30 per cent of the legislators should be elected at takeover. This would rise to 40 per cent in 1999, and 50 per cent in 2003.

The Canton announcement produced a mood of anger in Hong Kong and increased pressure for Britain to go it alone with more radical reforms.

A number of senior figures in Hong Kong have urged that if British plans do not include greater provision for reform, the legislators should resign as a group. Dame Lydia and Mr Lee will tell the Prime Minister that the colony wants 30 per cent of the local legislature to be directly elected next year and 50 per cent in 1995.

There is a strongly held view in Hong Kong that the Foreign Office is

responding too sympathetically to the tough line being adopted in Peking, and another proposal favoured in the colony would be for Mrs Thatcher to appoint a senior minister with Cabinet rank to handle the affairs of Hong Kong up to 1997.

The people of Hong Kong have also been shocked by the confirmation by Peking officials that local business and civil leaders who receive British passports as an insurance policy against persecution by the Chinese Government after 1997 will not be allowed to hold top government jobs once China takes over.

The coincidental arrival of the boat people at Heathrow yesterday served as a timely reminder of the other issues of concern in Hong Kong. Some of the relatives of the first party to arrive had journeyed to Heathrow for emotional reunions with members of their families they had not seen since themselves leaving the Hong Kong camps.

Mr Tong Hoang, aged 58, from Woolwich, London, was waiting with his daughter, Teresa, aged 17, for his

brother, Mr Binh Hoang, and six members of his family. The family left Vietnam together in 1963 but have not seen each other for four years.

Miss Teresa Hoang, a student, said: "The last time I saw my uncle was four years ago when we were all together in the camp in Hong Kong. There are about 50 members of my family and I hope they will all be allowed to come to England."

After being reunited with his relatives at Terminal 4, Mr Binh Hoang said: "We are very happy to see my family and be in London. We were told we would be allowed to come to Britain about a month ago. It's very difficult to get here. We've been trying for three years and have spent all that time in the camp in Hong Kong. Conditions there were terrible. I'm pleased to be out of the camp."

He added that his first priority in Britain would be to try to find a job and a secure future. For now, though, "I'm just pleased to be back with my family," he said.

Norman Tebbit, page 12

# Comrade Slovo opts for the road to revisionism

From Gavin Bell Johannesburg

Profound changes are taking place within an increasingly powerful political force in South Africa, which may improve prospects for non-racial democracy in a post-apartheid era.

After decades of rigid adherence to Stalinist dogma, the South African Communist Party is belatedly coming to terms with reality and espousing social democracy and all it entails — multi-party politics, a mixed economy, and freedom of speech, press and religion.

The conversion, of almost road-to-Damascus proportions, is important in view of the party's long-standing strategic alliance with the African National Congress, and its

growing support in black townships where the Soviet flag with the party's acronym has become one of the most credible symbols of resistance to apartheid.

A small, secretive organization banned in South Africa and based with the ANC in Lusaka, the party wields influence in the nationalist movement out of all proportion to its small cadre of activists.

When the ANC unveiled its "Freedom Charter" at a rally in Soweto in 1955, one of its authors, prohibited from attending by a restriction order, watched the proceedings through binoculars from a nearby rooftop. The man was Mr Joe Slovo, later to become general-secretary of the Communist Party and Stalinist eminence grise in the ANC corridors of power.

Mr Slovo's revisionism is all the remarkable in view of his previously unwavering and uncritical support for every action and excess of the Soviet Union. When the Italian Communist Party clashed with Moscow over Poland and Afghanistan, Mr Slovo praised both the crackdown and the invasion. Hungary 1956, East Berlin 1960, Czechoslovakia 1968, Afghanistan 1979 — not once did the party demur from Soviet propaganda.

But all this was before President Gorbachev's glasnost shook the foundations of communism. An indication that political tremors from Eastern Europe had reached South Africa emerged at the 7th congress of the party in Havana last June, when it adopted a new programme called "Paths to

Power". The first revision of tenets deemed immutable for almost 30 years, it finally denounced the repression of the Stalinist era, recognized the legitimacy of a multi-party parliamentary system, and acknowledged that party power should be won at the polls rather than imposed.

The party remained uneasy about what it called Soviet "new thinking", especially pressure from Moscow to abandon the armed struggle in favour of a negotiated settlement with Pretoria. Friction was evident from a series of disputatious exchanges between Mr Slovo and Mr Boris Asoyan, a senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official, in the pages of *Pravda*.

However, Mr Slovo has modified his position, judging by a discussion

paper which he submitted to an ANC executive meeting in Lusaka last week.

● LUSAKA: The Harare Declaration, the document in which the ANC sets out its way to full democracy, has been formally handed to Pretoria. President Kaunda of Zambia said yesterday (Jan Kaath writes).

Dr Kaunda said he had been advised this week by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, that the document had been presented to the South African Government shortly after Christmas. It is regarded as the key to the end of apartheid.

"This document is in the hands of the South African Government, and we are waiting to hear their response," Dr Kaunda said.

## Letter from Buenos Aires

# Spirit of Empire along the Plate

Tall, fair-haired and elegant in a double-breasted suit, Mr Eric Henderson looks the perfect Englishman as he sits in Clark's dining-room wistfully recalling the time he pranged his Austin Healey at the end of a stay in London. That incident, he remembers, came just before his stint in the Argentine Army.

Only the clipped vowels and pre-Second World War idioms betray Mr Henderson's origins and remind you that, for all the English panelling of the restaurant, the river down the road is not the wintry Thames but the Plate, a vast grey estuary

burnished by the midsummer sun. Mr Henderson, the owner of a local advertising company, is an Anglo-Argentinian, scion of a community descended from the 100,000 British 19th-century settlers. Their loyalties were tested by the Falklands War and the deep wound to Argentina's national pride inflicted by the British victory. "It was a bit like having your mother and father fighting. You love them both and you are stuck in the middle. It was a big strain," Mr Henderson, whose grandfather came from Scotland in the 1820s, said.

Now, nearly eight years after the war, the country's scars are healing, helped by the enthusiasm of President Menem for mending fences with London and putting aside the dispute on sovereignty over the "Malvinas".

Like most of their Argentinian countrymen, the British descendants think that General Leopoldo Galtieri's invasion was folly, but few believe sovereignty will not ultimately be restored to Buenos Aires.

Trade restrictions have been lifted, and Britain has supported Argentine accords with the European Community. Last month the Union Flag was hoisted over a reborn British Consulate, replacing the interests section under the Swiss Embassy; Mr Alan Hunt, the British representative transformed into Consul-General, is trading his old

Charles Bremner

## WORLD ROUNDUP

# Palestine activist freed from prison

Jerusalem — Mr Faisal Hussein, the prominent Palestinian intellectual and activist, was released yesterday from prison on bail after four days of interrogation (Richard Owen writes). He immediately vowed to continue the fight to "establish a Palestinian state alongside Israel, not in place of Israel".

Israeli officials said Mr Hussein would "continue to be investigated" but it was no longer necessary to detain him. Officials said several Palestinian activists had been brought in for questioning after Mr Hussein had been interrogated by Shin Bet, the Israeli internal security service, but Mr Hussein said he did not know to what this referred.

# Israeli reprisal fear

Beirut — Palestinian fighters in southern Lebanon yesterday evacuated most of their positions in anticipation of big Israeli retaliatory raids, following a guerrilla attack in which an Israeli colonel was killed (Juan Carlos Gurmucio writes). Reports from southern Lebanon said that Colonel Yitzhak Rahimov died in a hail of gunfire and grenade blasts on Sunday when his patrol was ambushed near the village of Yaroun. The extremist Fatah Revolutionary Council of Abu Nidal, the Palestinian guerrilla chief, said it was responsible

# Delhi accuses Bofors

Delhi — The Indian Government, taking its first decisive step to expose the 1985 Bofors arms scandal, yesterday levelled a string of accusations against 14 senior executives of the Swedish arms company, including Mr Martin Ardbo, the former president (Our Own Correspondent writes). All the executives were named in a first report submitted by the police to a special court here. "Certain public servants" were also accused of abusing their positions for financial gain, but were not named. The allegations include criminal conspiracy, cheating, criminal breach of trust and forgery.

# UK satellite launch

Kourou, French Guiana (Reuters) — A French observation satellite and six microsatellites, including two from the University of Surrey, separated successfully from the Western European Ariane 40 rocket early yesterday after a fiery night lift-off. Dr Martin Sweeting, of the university, said: "This is a new opportunity for small payloads to be launched quickly and economically." The principal payload of the mission, the Spot 2 observation satellite, separated from the rocket about 17 minutes after the launch late on Sunday evening from the Guiana Space Centre here.

# Desert hunters saved

Perth (AFP) — Police in helicopters yesterday rescued three men missing for three days in remote desert in northern Western Australia, near where eight Aborigines died of exposure last week. Police said the three men had not been seen since Friday, when they left a camp near Halls Creek, on the southern edge of the Kimberley Plateau, to go emu hunting. Their abandoned vehicle was spotted from the air early yesterday.

## Sihanouk's heartland

# Malaria rife amid uneasy peace

From James Pringle, Thmar Peak, Cambodia

Men harnessed to ox-carts heave and strain as they pull their loads along dusty tracks in the blazing sun. Hungry Cambodian village women wearing Thai-made T-shirts with fake Gucci or Gucci logos carry off loads of donated rice to their wretched villages. Many children are burning with fever.

Visiting "liberated" Cambodia is like returning to the fourteenth century, or earlier. Cambodians are now less well-clothed or nourished than the Khmer depicted on the ancient stone friezes at Angkor, the thirteenth-century temple complex, and their straw and palm-leaf homes less substantial. Malaria is endemic.

Despite the hardships, for the first time in more than 20 years there is a faint whiff of the real Cambodia after two decades of war and communist regimes — the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge and the current incumbents in power in Phnom Penh, the Vietnam-installed Government of Mr Hun Sen.

In this town, the "capital" of Prince Sihanouk's military forces in the "liberated" area, there is just a suggestion of the scatty charm that once be-

guiled visitors and a re-assertion of traditional values.

Women may be wearing cheap Thai sarongs instead of the elegant ankle-length sampots they once dressed in, but their carriage and grace are intact. It may be a luxury in a country which looks more impoverished than the poorest African land, but men are flocking to the pagodas to become Buddhist monks instead of going for ideological training at a communist school.

Cambodia was last like this before it got caught up in the war in neighbouring Vietnam. After the hell of the Khmer Rouge and the killing fields, and 11 years of a Vietnam-backed Marxist regime that forced people to work on border defence positions where many are said to have died of malaria, there are stirrings of life in the corpse that Cambodia had become.

Older Cambodians say they can hardly believe it when they see the old blue, red and white flag of the Kingdom of Cambodia flying again, hear the old popular songs and are not forced to use the jargon of the previous regimes.

"I used to dream it might be

like this again," said one middle-aged Cambodian woman in the market place of Thmar Peak, a district town of 8,000 people. "I didn't think I would ever see it." Despite the fact that the war is not far away, there is an absence of tension.

Pictures of Prince Sihanouk appear in every home, together with that of his son, Prince Ranariddh, the military commander and possible heir apparent, and every Sihanoukist soldier wears a picture of the Prince on a badge.

Old habits die hard, however. A "spontaneous" demonstration of 2,000 people was staged for the benefit of visiting correspondents. There were calls for food aid and support for Sihanouk's peace plan at a time when world powers have finally begun to accept a United Nations-brokered solution, although the Khmer factions have yet to agree to the formula.

While Sihanouk may have his faults, he is not regarded as an ogre because older people remember what life was like before his overthrow in 1970. "It was good then," a woman said. "Under the Khmer

Rouge, there was starvation and forced labour, under Hun Sen, conscription to build border defences and we were not free to sell our rice on the open market."

Sihanouk's allies in the non-communist resistance, the Khmer Peoples National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said privately that the Sihanoukist army has not pulled its weight since the withdrawal of the Vietnamese last September, and there is talk of factionalism among Sihanoukist officers who bristle at suggestions that the Khmer Rouge, Sihanouk's uneasy coalition partner, is doing most of the fighting. Certainly, the Sihanoukist forces have failed to take all their targets. The KPNLF has done better.

More fighting is expected. General Krouch Yeum, the military governor of the Sihanoukist enclave, said that the "resistance" — the Khmer Rouge, the KPNLF and the Sihanoukists — would launch an attack soon on Sisophon, a key provincial capital in the south. He added that the Khmer Rouge would launch a full-scale offensive on Battambang, Cambodia's second city, in late February.

# Pressure grows for Jackson to replace fallen Barry

From Peter Stothard US Editor, Washington

The Rev Jesse Jackson came under intense pressure yesterday to run for election as the Mayor of Washington in place of the disgraced Mayor Marion Barry.

Prominent business supporters of the Barry administration, whose leader faces a charge of cocaine possession after a controversial police "sting", are manoeuvring for a Jackson candidacy as the smoothest way to maintain

their influence over the US capital.

Potential campaign financiers, including local telephone company and television chiefs, have made common cause with senior administration officials who fear that they would be ousted if a more moderate and reformist candidate were to win the November election.

Mr Jackson, who moved his home to Washington from Chicago last year, has so far refused comment. He is

known to be equivocal about the mayor's job, which would curtail his time for political campaigning on both the national and international stages.

But, if all sections of the black movement in Washington wanted him to stand, his national standing could suffer if he refused. His present silence is explained by his spokesman as due to laryngitis and influenza.

Mayor Barry himself appears to be ruling out a rapid resignation. He has promised

supporters to take time "to heal my body, mind and soul" and is expected to undergo treatment for alcohol and drug addiction.

His continued tenure in office is his only bargaining chip against his prosecutors. Delay also helps the draft Jackson campaign since, if Mr Barry were to resign, he would be succeeded by the white DC Council leader, Mr David Clarke, who would thereby have all the advantages of an incumbent in the Democratic

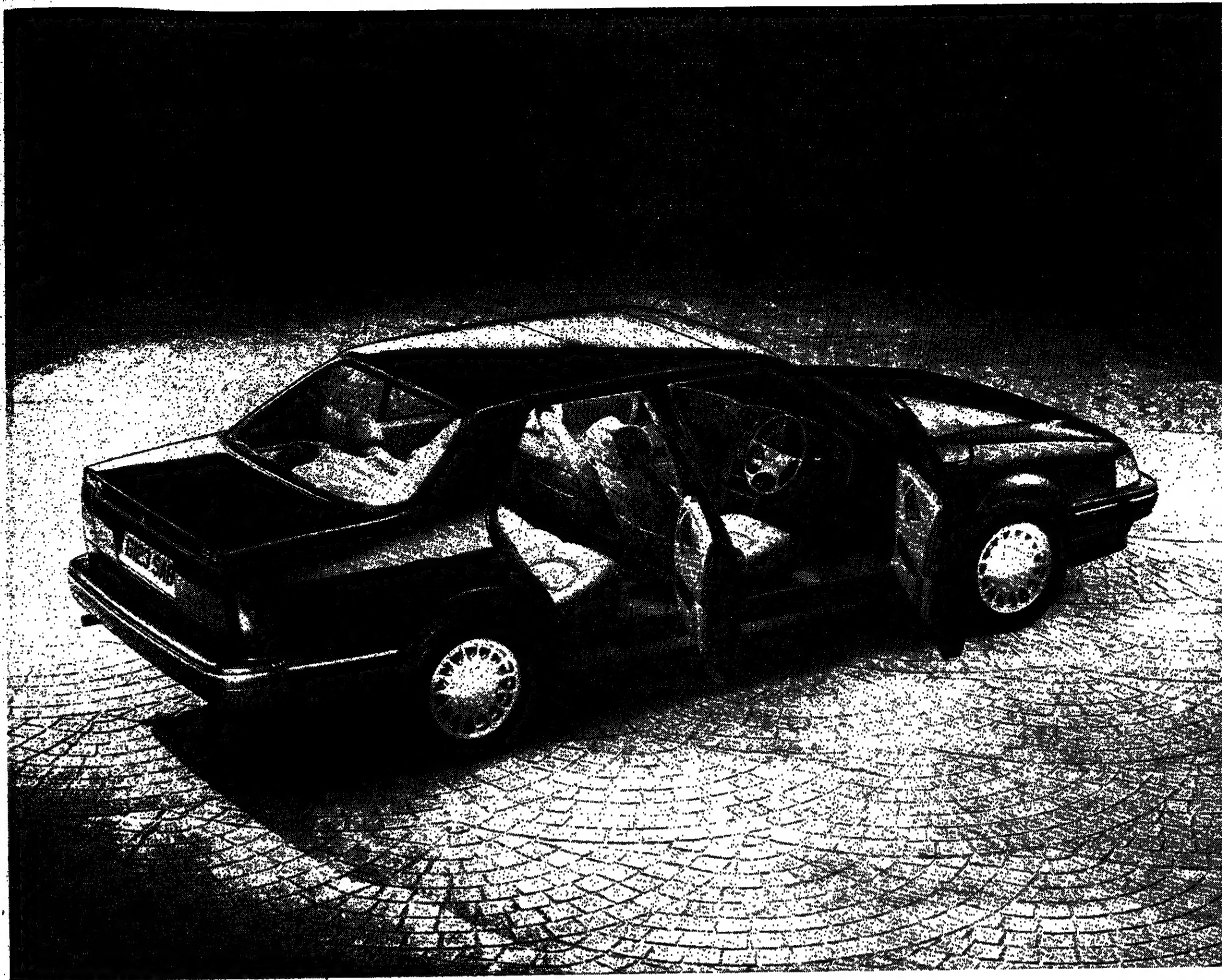
Primary in September. Meanwhile, the late-night chat show host and humourist, David Letterman, was not slow to focus on the downfall of Washington's Mayor with a batch of Barry jokes.

"You can say what you like about Marion Barry, but gram for gram you're not going to find a better mayor," he said recently on his *Late Night with David Letterman*.

He suggested the following excuses Mr Barry might have given the police when he was

arrested: used drugs to escape the daily nightmare of having first name "Marion"; as Mayor, has duty to greet visiting foreign dignitaries — like Colombians; President Bush asked him to buy the drug so he could hold it up during his next TV speech; his addiction started as a craving for those little mints they leave on your pillow — and then just got out of hand; he was doing what he could to keep drugs out of the hands of young people.





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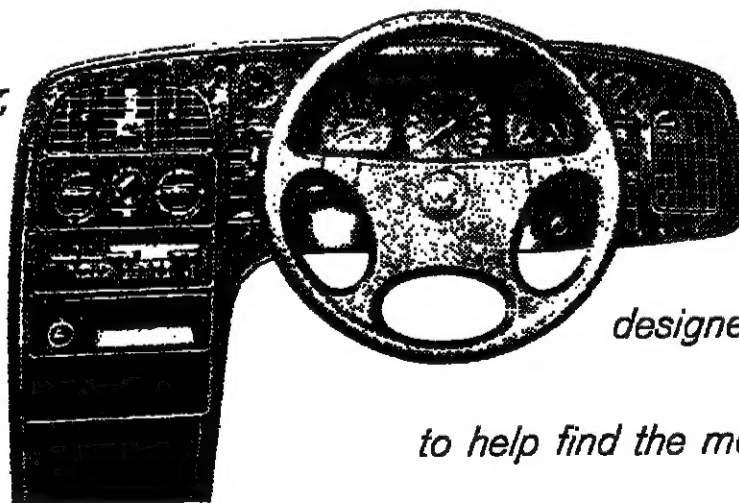
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# Yugoslav communists clear way for multi-party system

From Dena Trevisan and John Holland, Belgrade

Delegates to the Yugoslav extraordinary communist party congress yesterday voted to give up the party's monopoly on power, opening the way for parliamentary legislation to usher in a multi-party political system.

The historic vote is expected to put an end to 43 years of constitutionally guaranteed domination by the League of Communists.

But the congress overwhelmingly rejected a toughly debated proposal to give greater autonomy to communist parties in its six republics, a vote which is likely to be challenged by the more liberal maverick republics of Slovenia and Croatia.

Despite formally relinquishing their monopoly on power, only a fifth of the delegates voted for a proposal to abolish torture and an end to political show trials.

That proposal was aimed at easing the explosive human rights situation in the troubled autonomous province of Kosovo, where last year thousands of ethnic Albanians were detained and questioned.

Since then, evidence has emerged that the police have

been using torture against Albanian detainees.

Human rights organizations have compiled reports embarrassing to the Yugoslav authorities.

Supporting the proposal last night, Professor Ljubo Bavcon, a prominent Slovene professor of criminal law in Ljubljana, said it was necessary to prevent torture and humiliating treatment practised by the police.

"The essence of every regime is being judged by the criminal laws, and political trials are one of them," Professor Bavcon said.

He called for the abolition of all legislation which stifled human rights.

Advocating peaceful solutions, he demanded an end to the "repressive system" of Yugoslavia would proceed along the Czechoslovak and not the Romanian path.

Only 169 of 1,659 delegates to the extraordinary party congress voted in favour of the Slovene proposal on autonomy.

Instead, the congress voted for a watered-down version, pledging a "quick transformation into a modern,

unified, democratic party with a new socialist programme", which has yet to be worked out.

A compromise by Mr Ivica Racan, the Croatian party leader, that there should not be a vote on any amendments but a simple endorsement of the party's declaration of reform, was also rejected by the congress.

The vote was seen as a clear victory for the Serbian-led faction which wants central control of the party from Belgrade to continue.

But it is expected to precipitate a showdown between hardline and liberal party forces after the Slovene party convenes early next month, at which they are expected to reject the congress vote and follow their own course.

The plenary session had opened with party leaders unable to calm acrimony, with delegates heading for a formal split into conservative and reform socialist sections.

When the plenary session opened, to an already hostile mood, Mr Desimir Medovic, the president of the Bosnian party youth organization, renewed his calls for the split,

and charged that the party had not had to face free elections.

"The new communist party will be joined by those who are hardliners, but the new party... will be joined by those who believe in modern socialist ideas where members are not disciplined by force," he said.

He stressed: "There is no such thing as party unity but only a rotten compromise. The League of Communists is headed towards suicide and dragging Yugoslavia towards it."

His remarks were met with applause by the Slovene delegation, mixed with some calls that he leave the podium.

Mr Nijez Durakovic, the head of the Bosnian communist party, went on the defensive. He told the conference: "If they (the Slovenes) want to form a new party, it would be more honest to leave this party."

Earlier, a Serbian-led majority of the 1,649 delegates from the country's six republics, rejected a motion that the League of Communists seek closer ties with, and eventual full membership of, the European Community.

## Rock and politics share the stage



Meeting of minds: Frank Zappa, left, the American rock star, deep in conversation with President Havel of Czechoslovakia. They met yesterday in Prague where they discussed plans for a film about Czechoslovakia for a US television group. Zappa, aged 49, also expressed a willingness to help the country financially, according to the Czechoslovak news agency, CTK.

## Modrow offers Cabinet posts to opposition

From Anne McElroy, East Berlin

With the East German communist party collapsing around him, Herr Hans Modrow, the Prime Minister, yesterday attempted to save his crumbling coalition by offering opposition groups ministerial posts in his Government.

Herr Modrow asked the participants of the round table talks to nominate candidates for Cabinet posts in the next few days and is anxious to reform the coalition by the beginning of next week. He told participants: "I need your advice, and support of all parties not just one."

The offer came after Herr Modrow had announced the resignation of Frau Uta Nickel, his Finance Minister, who is being investigated on embezzlement charges. She is accused of making illegal payments from state funds while holding a treasurer's post in Leipzig under the previous administration.

Herr Modrow suffered a further blow on Sunday when his main ally on the reformist wing of the party, Herr Wolfgang Berghofer, quit the party together with 39 other leading functionaries saying that it was "unreformable".

Many opposition group speakers said yesterday that they believed the communist-dominated coalition to be untenable with the party falling apart.

Herr Modrow stressed that he was not acting as a member of the communist party but in an attempt to ensure stable government until the May elections.

The offer of Cabinet posts appears to be Herr Modrow's last chance to hold the coalition together by broadening it to include opposition ministers. East Germany's reform groups have resisted such overtures, saying that they

would not participate in a Cabinet dominated by old communist party members which had its mandate from the people.

Yesterday's offer was more keenly received, however, with Herr Ibrahim Böhm, of the Social Democrats, saying that his party would be prepared to support "grand coalition" as long as it included all political forces.

The round table also heard apologies from Herr Egon Krenz, the former leader, and Herr Wolfgang Harig, who were both responsible for security questions in Herr Erich Honecker's Politburo. "We apologize to all those citizens who suffered under the erroneous security policies of the past," said Herr Krenz who was stripped of his party membership on Sunday.

He told the participants that the Stasi had acted "like a state within a state" governed by the then leader, Herr Honecker, and Herr Erich Mielke, his Minister for State Security. Decisions about the use of force during the violent suppression of demonstrations last October had not been subject to vote or discussion in the Politburo or the Central Committee, he said.

Herr Krenz, who presided over the falsified May elections which led to widespread discontent, admitted that the country's previous electoral process had been undemocratic. "Over the last few weeks I have realized that we had neither free nor fair elections for 40 years."

© Putsch denied: Herr Theodor Hoffmann, the East German Defence Minister, yesterday dismissed a report in the West German *Bild Zeitung* that troops and security forces were preparing for a possible coup in East Germany.

## Soviet briefing for Waldegrave

By Michael Knipe, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, is to be given a high-level insight in Moscow today into how the Soviet Union views the crisis in Azerbaijan when he meets Mr Viktor Karpov, a Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Valentin Falin, the head of the Central Committee's international department.

Although the Soviet Union's internal affairs are not officially the subject of Mr Waldegrave's visit, in the present mood in Moscow, Soviet officials need no second bidding to air their views on the various crises besetting the Government, a Foreign Office source said.

Mr Waldegrave, who is making his first visit to the Soviet Union, flew to Moscow on Sunday evening to begin a much-delayed, and in theory, fairly routine bilateral meeting. However, its significance has been heightened by the dramatic events that continue to unfold in the Soviet Union.

Mr Waldegrave was given a guided tour of the Kremlin yesterday morning, and had talks with Mr Yuli Vorontsov,

First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, with particular responsibility for the Middle East, South Asia and Afghanistan. He meets Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, tomorrow before flying on to Kiev. In the afternoon he met Mr Anatoly Adamishin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs with responsibility for bilateral affairs, and then had discussions with trainee Soviet diplomats at the Moscow Diplomatic Academy.

This was followed by a dinner at the British Ambassador's residence attended by a more informal group including Jewish refuseniks, religious activists and intellectuals.

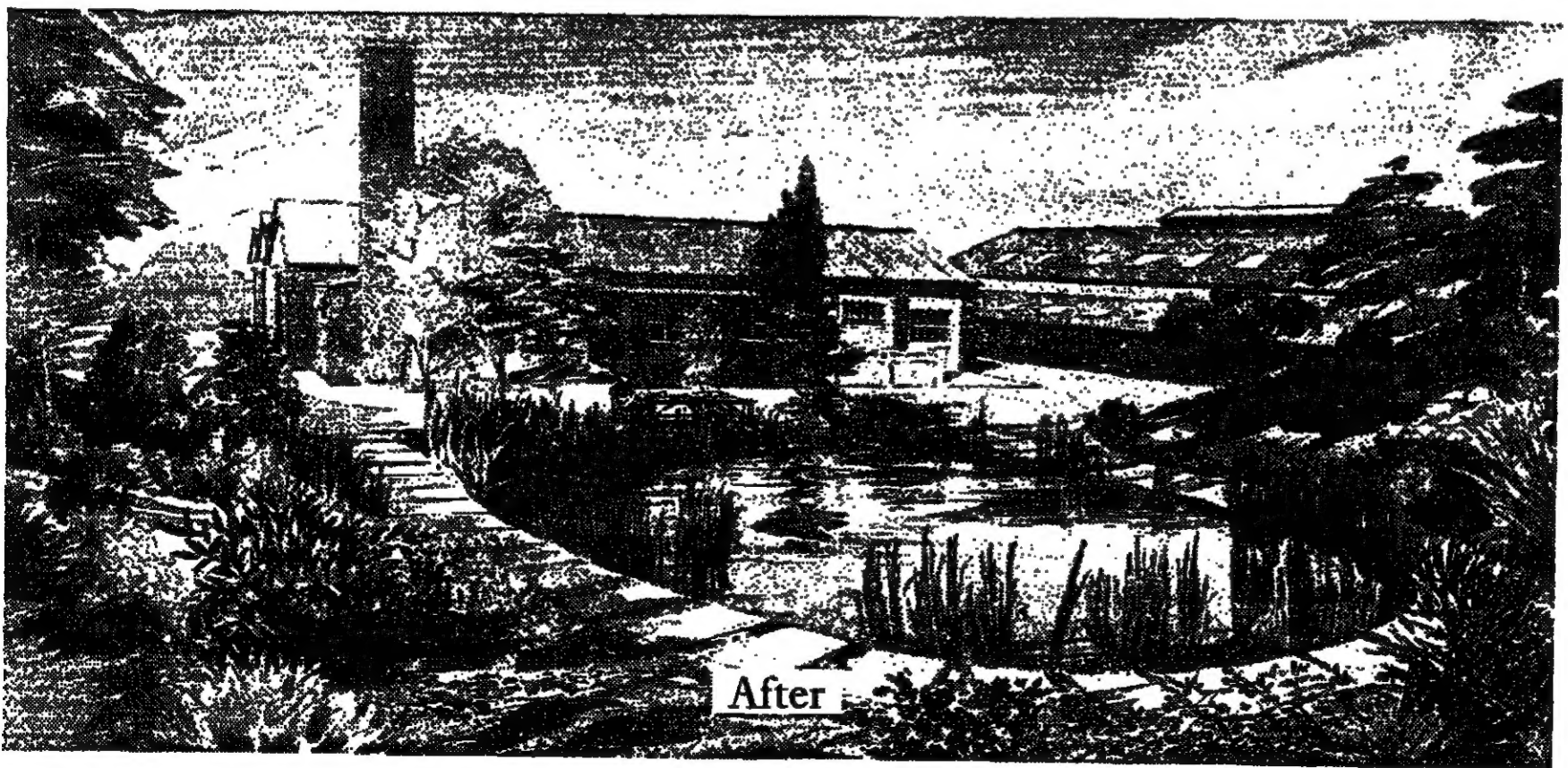
His primary business in the Ukrainian capital will be to discuss arrangements for the "Britain in Kiev" festival, which is to be staged in June and opened by the Princess Royal.

However, in addition to meeting Ukrainian government and party officials, he will have dinner with officials of Rukh, the popular movement which at the weekend organized a human chain.



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THE CHANGING FACE OF COMMUNISM

# Old loyalties reawaken as the flags fly again

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow

One by one, the symbols of communism are vanishing. Latvia has just voted to bring back its pre-Soviet flag, anthem and state symbols, joining Lithuania and Estonia, which now fly the flags that symbolised their independent states.

But not only in the Baltic states are old loyalties reawakening. Russia too is returning to its past. People in Moscow openly wear lapel badges with tsarist colours and the double-headed eagle. Old street names are coming back.

A campaign has been launched to give Leningrad its original name of St Petersburg. There even exists a royalist society dedicated to the restoration of the Romanov dynasty, though it numbers no more than a few score members.

Moscow has scrapped virtually all the slogans that promised a golden communist future. The poet Mayakovsky

still stands in the square outside the Tchaikovsky Hall, but no longer does the exhortation beam down from the roof: "Let us turn Moscow into a model communist city!"

The generating station along the river no longer sports Lenin's famous dictum: "Communism equals Soviet power plus the electrification of the whole country."

The second has long been achieved; the first no longer seems so compelling a goal. A more modest hammer and sickle is a reminder, however, that Soviet power has not yet gone with the wind.

Lenin, coat over his shoulder, no longer strides out purposefully from the facades of buildings where drivers would gaze at his confident countenance as they waited for the lights to change.

But his statues remain, as does the magnificent, craggy Marx head emerging from a slab of granite outside the Bolshoi Theatre. To remove those would indeed

be turning the country's back on 70 years of history.

But while Lenin's soul goes marching on, the body, mouldering in the mausoleum (recently closed for lengthy and mysterious repairs) may not lie in state forever. Two years ago, a well-known theatre director suggested it was time the founder of the Soviet state was laid to rest in the earth like other mortals. There was a shocked response. Today the idea is no longer so sacrilegious.

In one way the disappearance of the slogans makes Moscow a duller place. It gave the city an exotic feeling to gaze out of your window each day and see "Glory to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union". Some were useful markers: to get to the Anglo-American school, you knew you had to turn right soon after the "Atoms for peace" sign.

Now, in changing times, not only have some slogans sprouted up in English, but

they are frankly capitalist in their orientation. "Soviet advertising abroad, foreign advertising in the USSR," says one, whose purpose seems somewhat clouded.

Driving down Gorky Street is spoilt by a huge flashing neon Pepsi-Cola sign and Christian Dior advertising his wares as you glimpse the mysterious beauty of Red Square. It is not what tourists want to see — and Russians certainly would prefer something more tangible like "Shop here for food".

In 10 days' time, they will be luckier: after working for 5,000 days and generating more publicity than any other venture, McDonald's is about to open its doors to its largest restaurant in the world.

Serving 15,000 people a day, with 700 seats inside and 200 outside, it will symbolize the arrival of the Western way of life even in the Soviet Union. One

Russian muttered glumly, looking at the famous golden arches already erected over the still shrouded shop front, that it will produce more plastic litter in Pushkin Square than Moscow has ever known before.

Little by little, things taken for granted in the West are becoming commonplace here. Joint ventures and co-operatives mean there is at last a choice of places to eat — at a price. Marlboro cigarettes seem to be the Russians' favourite smoke. Western firms' calendars adorn every Soviet office. All the kitsch of richer consumer societies has arrived, although little of the substance. The magnificent old tsarist hotel, named by Stalin the Berlin in solidarity with the fraternal German Democratic Republic, has reverted to being the Savoy. Gracefully redecorated in former elegance, it offers good food and good service — but, maddeningly, not for roubles and there-

fore not for Russians: a tantalizing symbol of the unobtainable good life in the West.

And meanwhile, the communist monolith is being steadily chipped away, politically, symbolically, economically becoming as pockmarked as the Berlin Wall. Russians are now filling their lives with older virtues — the Church, Russian patriotism and Russian art and decoration. Other national groups draw away scornfully from the creation of new Soviet man to their own religions and foods, local heroes and national antagonisms.

The flood of Western influence rolls in, raising expectations, increasing frustration. Some 230,000 emigrated last year in search of a better life abroad. For the rest, they know only that what they have now is the legacy of a socialist past that few cherish. Changing the flags is only the first step.

## Azerbaijani mass protest at ministry in Moscow

Moscow (Reuters) — Thousands of Azerbaijanis waving black flags and chanting "Shame, Shame!" marched to the Defence Ministry in Moscow yesterday to express anger over scores of people killed when Soviet troops stormed through the capital, Baku.

Carrying banners proclaiming "Festiroika, not Gunfire," and "Gorbachev assassinate the protesters," the demonstrators shouted down General Nikolai Smirnov, the commander of Moscow's military garrison, when he tried to address the crowd. The demonstration was peaceful and the police presence small.

Moscow's sizeable Armenian community, which has held frequent demonstrations since clashes began between the two nationalities in the Soviet south, stayed at home. The crowd of some 3,000 people was prevented from entering the Defence Ministry by over a dozen yellow buses barring the way. When General Smirnov appeared, he was immediately surrounded by Azeris shouting their anger at the Army, which smashed nationalist barricades on its way into Baku on Saturday. More than 80 people died in the action.

General Smirnov listened patiently but was unable to convince anyone that the army action was necessary and after an hour of arguing, he gave up and left the scene. "If I thought the Army had participated in actions against the people, I would apologise," Smirnov said. "Listen to him, he doesn't believe us," shouted people in the crowd. "If someone ordered you to shoot me would you do it?" demanded one Azeri, Mr. Damir Tykel. "Yes," was the response from the general.

"He would shoot! Shame!" was the response.

"But I have never received an order directed against my own people," General Smirnov added hastily as the throng swelled with passengers from a nearby metro station. Traffic backed up and impatient Muscovites booed car horns and swore at demonstrators as the argument continued.

Mr. Ashraf Veliyev, a veteran of the Soviet action in Afghanistan, thrust his military ID card at the general and declared, "The action in Azerbaijan is a second Afghanistan. They were peaceful people there and we Azeris are peaceful people too."

The march from the Azeri mission in Moscow, organized by the Azeri Popular Front, was not authorized, but was allowed to proceed after more than 1,000 people gathered there at mid-afternoon. By the time the group reached the Defence Ministry, it had tripled in size.

Earlier, Azerbaijanis at the mission denounced President Gorbachev saying there had been countless deaths in the army operation at the weekend.

"Gorbachev said he was building a bright future. Can it be built on the blood and corpses of our people?" asked Mr. Assim Mamedov Asad-Zade, who said he was a deputy on the local council in Azerbaijan's second city, Gyanzha, which was formerly Kirovabad.

Mr. Gorbachev, who signed the Kremlin decree imposing a state of emergency in Baku, said in a television address at the weekend that Moscow had no choice in the face of an attempt by the Popular Front to seize power by force.

## Iran breathes more easily as troops seal border

By Hahzir Teimourian

The re-appearance of Soviet troops along the Azerbaijan-Iran border yesterday must have produced a deep sense of relief in Tehran, although the leaders of the Islamic republic made brave attempts to give the opposite impression.

The prospect of the border remaining indefinitely open to the seven million socially-liberated Soviet Azeris and their more numerous, repressed compatriots in Iranian Azerbaijan had alarmed many of Iran's leaders. With a 10-year guerrilla war still continuing in the Kurdish mountains in the west, Tehran is extremely nervous about the spread of nationalist fervour to any of its national minorities.

The daily incursions of thousands of Soviet Azeris into Iran over the past two weeks created great excitement among Iran's own Azeris, estimated at a minimum of 14 million. Family reunions and new friendships have been made across the frozen waters of the river Araks for the first time since the Second World War. Newspapers and television news bulletins have claimed that the northerners' primary aim was "to return to the Islamic home" — a slogan more to be expected of clerical rulers in Iran.

The question for Tehran was how to give the appearance of sharing the happiness



Armenian volunteers patrolling along the border with Nakhichevan, the Azerbaijani enclave wedged between Armenia and Iran, as clashes continue.

of Azerbaijanis at home and abroad without impeding the progress of Soviet leaders towards re-establishing control over the rebels.

"Iran wanted firm action by Gorbachev, provided that it was kept out of the gaze of reporters," said one Iranian observer yesterday.

The firm action, when it

came, was accompanied by inadequate control over the media. Although Soviet troops ringed Baku's broadcasting station, they were not ordered to enter its studios. Radio and television, clearly audible to millions of Iranian Azeris across the border, continued to call on the populace to show their oppo-

sition to the intervention and broadcast inflammatory claims of the Muslim people of "Russians".

Iran's Cabinet, headed by the cautious President Rafsanjani, told Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, the Foreign Minister, on Sunday to take "serious steps" to persuade the Soviet Union to stop the

bloodshed immediately and to "grant the legitimate demands of the Muslim people" of Soviet Azerbaijan.

Mr. Mehdi Karrubi, the Parliamentary Speaker, complained of Soviet "double standards", pointing out that Mr. Gorbachev had personally gone to Lithuania recently to talk the people out of their demands for independence while at the same time sending in his tanks to crush the Muslims of Azerbaijan.

He was careful not to refer either to the national aspirations of Soviet Azerbaijanis or to their pogroms against Armenians in Baku which made the situation in Azerbaijan different from the conditions prevailing in the Baltic republic.

A major problem for Mr. Rafsanjani will be how to extend control over radical critics who believe that Iran has a religious duty to send arms to militants in Soviet Azerbaijan, even if the action puts important commercial relations with Moscow at risk. The radicals have many bands of "revolutionary guards"

under their control in Iranian Azerbaijan and could easily subvert Tehran's pro-Soviet foreign policy.

ANKARA: Turkey has told the Soviet Union it is ready to send medical aid to Azerbaijan (Reuters reports).

A senior Foreign Ministry official said yesterday: "The offer concerns solely medical aid. No other form of aid has been considered." The offer was made to the Soviet Ambassador in Ankara on Sunday. So far no reply has been received.

The Azerbaijan autonomous region of Nakhichevan, squeezed between eastern Turkey and the Soviet republic of Armenia, declared "full independence" on Saturday and appealed for help from Turkey and Iran.

The official dismissed Turkish press reports that many Azerbaijanis in Nakhichevan were fleeing from Armenian attacks towards the Turkish border as well as the frontier with Iran. "We only have a 8-mile border with Nakhichevan and that is heavily guarded by troops," he said.

## Romanian public bewildered by political moves

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

Professor Silviu Brucan, the eminence behind Romania's ruling National Salvation Front was asked by an earnest woman from American television how the people could elect a Government which changed its mind every day. "Every day is an exaggeration," he replied with a grin. "We only change our minds every week."

The reply was typical of the blend of disarming honesty and hopeless naivety which passes for politics in a country which recently marked the first month since the revolution when overthrow a dictator who has devoted to preventing any democratic

transition. The constant changes in direction and lack of information about the processes of government (the annulment of the two referendums on the death penalty and the abolition of the Communist Party

were read on television by the same announcer who for years read out Ceausescu's decrees) have left the public bewildered.

In the first month of freedom, 13 political parties have emerged and the Front has decided that when elections, still scheduled for April, are held, anyone who can secure the support of 21 electors can put their name on the lists.

Some of the groups, such as the National Peasants Party, one of the most important from the pre-Communist era, have already knocked into shape something resembling workable organizations. Others have done little more than type up a programme and put it on the wall in the Metro, where crowds gather at all hours for heated, if confused, debate.

The Peasants Party is led by Mr. Corneliu Coposu, a former lawyer who has the disconcert-

ing habit of pulling out two photographs, one of himself as a strapping young man weighing more than 17 stone and the other as an emaciated 49-year-old whose weight had dropped to eight stone after 17 years in jail.

Like the National Liberal Party, one of three historic parties revived to fight an election which Mr. Coposu is convinced will be postponed, the party is not opposed to the return of King Michael from Switzerland to take up a position similar to that of King Juan Carlos of Spain.

Two of the exiled King's five daughters arrived last week in the wake of Prince Paul, the arts dealer with a British passport who represents a rival wing of the Hohenzollern family.

The almost daily increase in the number of parties is worrying many ordinary citizens unable to cope with

discovering what exactly they stand for. It reminds old hands of the chaotic years of the 1930s when between 50 and 100 different parties and temporary groupings competed for the favour of a disillusioned public.

As we stood in the freezing rain which had at least dampened the demonstrating ardour of ordinary Romanians infuriated at being deprived of the chance of voting to bring back the firing squad, one engineering apprentice explained his concern about the number of parties.

"The trouble is I know nothing about them, the only political figures I know are those in the Front," he said. "Personally, I would like to vote for our Prime Minister, Petre Roman."

Mr. Roman, who has already won the hearts of women voters, announced a week ago he would not stand.

Foreign visitors who have been impressed with his approach, hope that like everything else in Romanian politics, that pledge will soon be reversed.

The decision to deny the public the two referendums was seen in diplomatic circles as a daring gamble designed both to impose the Front's authority and to impress Western opinion.

Professor Brucan, a former ambassador to the US, announced the reversal to foreign newsmen, but was not willing to appear on television. His aides admit that the next few days will be crucial to test whether the Front can ride out the expected backlash.

One factor working in its favour is the view of many of the new parties, whose leaders were dismayed with the January 12 demonstration at which nervous and exhausted Front

leaders caved in to the chants of an unrepresentative and often drunken crowd.

Members of the Front have hinted the Army will be used to break up any future illegal demonstrations of that type.

Mr. William Waldegrave, Britain's Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said during his visit that he found strong disagreements about whether Romania had any real tradition of democracy to fall back on.

Students of the volatile periods which followed political reforms introduced after the First World War describe it as a time of characteristic Romanian democracy, marked by an uneducated electorate, quarrelsome politicians and a succession of monarchs unable to resist tinkering with the political process. Early signs are that a similar period of political instability now lies ahead.

## Bonn to tackle pollution in East Germany

From Ian Murray, Bonn

Herr Klaus Topfer, the Environment Minister in West Germany, has ended a three-day visit to polluted areas of East Germany with a promise to rush ahead with projects to start cleaning up one of Europe's dirtiest countries.

The first co-operation treaty between the Germanies, which was agreed last summer, was on six ecological pilot schemes. Herr Topfer is the first specialist minister to make such an on-the-spot inspection.

East Germany is, per capita, the third-heaviest user of electricity in the world. The generation of power, largely with brown coal furnaces, means that the air is always heavy with soot. West Berlin is meant to be a smokeless zone, but the yellow smog from the power stations was never restrained by the Wall.

Not only the cities suffer. The latest survey of West Germany's much-loved but devastated forests, shows that the Black Forest is no longer the most polluted area. It is the woods in the border lands which are dying quickest, because of the sulphur dioxide from the brown coal chimneys and, so far, there has been no way to help them.

Herr Topfer's main concern during his visit, however, was over the safety of East Germany's nuclear power stations. One of them is not much more than a mile from the West German border at Helmstedt.

Of Russian design and in service for more than a decade,

it does not match up to West German safety standards.

Herr Topfer was accompanied by nuclear experts on his visit. East Germany has promised that it will not buy or install any more nuclear reactors unless they meet West German standards.

Herr Topfer had pledged DM 1 billion (£360 million) to help clean up East Germany even before he arrived. This is a fraction of the estimated DM 200 billion needed to replace all the brown coal furnaces, renovate the sewage works and ensure clean water.

West German companies will be encouraged to undertake joint ventures to speed and finance the work, but at best it will take a decade.

West Germany exports millions of tonnes of rubbish and waste over the border for disposal, and East Germany has been prepared to do this for a price. Last year, 6,580,751 tonnes were sent over the border, of which 4,940,000 came from West Berlin. Of the total amount, 700,000 tonnes was classified as poisonous waste.

East Germany has made a good deal of money from acting as West Germany's "dustbin", while West German transport firms can earn anything up to DM 600 a tonne for carrying toxic waste across the border.

North Rhine-Westphalia, West Germany's most industrialized area, announced this week that it would no longer send rubbish East.

## Pupils demonstrate for end to Ceausescu curriculum

Bucharest (AP) — More than 3,000 high-school students demonstrated yesterday for a broader education relevant to the world outside the narrow curriculum enforced by the Ceausescu regime.

The demonstration was also aimed at the abolition of the special exams at the end of the second year of high school which students must pass in their main field of study, or face expulsion.

"If Elena Ceausescu can fall down, our exam must fall down, too," the students chanted as they marched from the Ministry of Education to the provisional government

headquarters. Student leaders said they had given the Provisional Government one month from December 22, when the Ceausescus were forced to flee the city, to do away with the special exam.

"Until now, they have told us nothing. That's why we're here," said Rodica Cujde, aged 16. "We want to study the real history because the history they taught us before was a wrong history. We want to learn more subjects. We want to study the history of art, science, foreign languages."

There was a sense of exhilaration as the students

wound their way along the icy streets of old Bucharest behind a Romanian flag with the communist emblem torn out.

The students from about 15 schools walked out of classes at mid-morning yesterday. Romania has specialized high schools in industrial fields and academic subjects such as mathematics and physics, languages and history, chemistry and biology.

Rosu Costin, aged 16, who is studying maths and physics, said the exams were so difficult that students needed private tutoring to pass.

"This isn't fair because poor students don't have money to

pay teachers at home," he said, adding that the 40,000 lei (£2,700) needed for a year of tutoring was enough to buy a small car.

Bogdan Popescu, aged 16, an engineering student, said he was demonstrating because the exam meant students learned only two subjects and did not have "a general culture."

Ozana Ninosa, aged 16, studying at the German High School, complained: "I don't learn anything in school, just a little German."

All the students complained that they had to wear gloves and coats in their classrooms

because the schools were so cold.

At the former Foreign Ministry building, now the headquarters of the National Salvation Front provisional government, a delegation of students was chosen to meet the Education Minister, Mr. Mihai Sora.

Mr. Zosim Basir, a Front official, told the students that Romania's economic plight had top priority.

"The young people are in revolution," he said, "and in a revolutionary situation, everything comes mixed up."

● Firing squad: Romanian soldiers were so keen to

execute Ceausescu that all 80 on firing squad duty started shooting after their officer asked only five to step forward. Professor Silviu Brucan, one of the Front leaders, told *Le Figaro* (Reuters reports).

He was also quoted by the French daily as saying that the bodies of Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, executed at the same time, were found to have 120 bullet wounds.

"The officer in charge of the firing squad asked five soldiers to step forward and prepare to shoot. The squad was made up of 80 men. They all fired at the same time," Professor Brucan said.



January 22 1990

## PARLIAMENT

# Bill to protect rights of pension-holders

The Government's plans in the Social Security Bill to give greater protection to members of occupational pension schemes were outlined by Mr Tony Newton, Secretary of State for Social Security.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on social security, said that the Bill would do little to stop employees being cheated of their pension rights. Labour would require occupational pension schemes to be inflation-proof.

Mr Newton, moving second reading, said that the two main themes of the Bill were changes to disability benefits and greater protection for those with occupational pensions. Also, there would be powers to introduce a new grants scheme towards the cost of insulation measures in low-income households.

So far this year alone, £8 billion had been spent on the long-term sick and disabled. This spending had doubled since 1979, mainly because of a large increase in the number of beneficiaries.

The Bill would abolish the six-month qualifying period for attendance allowance for the terminally ill, introduce the age-related addition to the severe disablement allowance and end further entitlement to earnings-related additional pension. A later Bill would introduce two new benefits, a new disability allowance and a new disability employment credit. Work had still to be done on these changes.

The payment of attendance allowance to the terminally ill would be worth £37.55 a week from next April. Extra payments to invalid care allowance, income support and housing benefit would increase the cost to £35 million a year.

Age-related addition to severe disablement allowance would be a non-contributory benefit for the long-term sick who had not paid sufficient National Insurance contributions to claim invalidity benefit. This would give those under 40 who were incapable of work an extra £10 a week from December. There would be a lower addition for those disabled later in life. The net additional cost would be £16

million in 1990-91 and £50 million a year after that.

Reduced-earnings allowance was paid at present to those who had lost income because of industrial injury. Most claimants received invalidity benefit instead because they were not working. This duplication would be removed by ending new entitlements to reduced earnings allowance from the autumn. Existing beneficiaries would not be affected by the change. This would reduce expenditure by £1 million in 1990-91, £15 million in 1991-92 and £40 million in 1992-93.

Additional pension was paid with invalidity benefit. The average payment was £9, costing £450 million a year. The commitment was growing rapidly and by 1998 the average payment would be £21 and the cost £1.6 billion and rising.

A commitment on that scale would inhibit the growth of occupational sick-pay schemes and widen the gap between those able and unable to work. It would make it increasingly difficult for any government to find resources to help disabled people with the greatest needs.

The Bill therefore provided for no new entitlement to additional pension after 1990-91. From April 1991 all entitlement to additional pension would cease. Existing rights would be preserved.

The saving would be £5 million in 1992-93 rising to £100 million in mid-decade and £350 million by the end of the century.

The complete package would help about 850,000 people at a net cost of £300 million by 1993-94. Because of its expenditure on the long-term sick and disabled there would be higher than it would otherwise have been for every remaining year of the century.

Mr Meacher asked what would be the total cumulative saving from the abolition of additional pension.

By 2025 expenditure would be reduced by more than £1 billion.

The Bill provided a number of measures to give greater protection to members of pension schemes. For some it had come as a painful awakening that the takeover or merger of their company had resulted in a sharp reduction in the value of their pension.

Not only did people expect the full value and security of pension rights built up over a number of years, they also had expectations of discretionary increases on top.

"Instead, they can end up with a pension based on the lower salary they had when their original scheme was wound up. And only part of that is protected by revaluation each year. That is no longer acceptable."

The Government was proposing that revaluation should be applied to the whole of the preserved pension rights of future early leavers, not just that fraction accumulating after 1983.

"This will not only benefit people affected by takeovers and mergers, but also those who change jobs."

The Bill also included measures to restrict self-investment where pension funds owned any assets in companies to which they were related.

More than 3.5 million had now opted for personal pension schemes, which reduced the burden on Serps in the longer term.

Serps and most other public sector occupational schemes, including those for MPs, were fully inflation-proofed. But in the private sector, virtually none were.

Some private schemes made no increase in pension after retirement. The Bill would do nothing to prevent this form of legalised robbery.

Labour would require occupational schemes to meet full inflation-proofing targets, and to ensure that they did so, would ban employer or trustee unilateral contribution holidays.

The over-trumping of the proposals on disability benefits was matched only by their modesty.



Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, with the department's Action Bus, which began a six-month tour yesterday aimed at advising women who are interested in returning to work. Women at work, page 3.

## Luce denies fees have slashed museum visits

Allegations that the introduction of museum charges had seen admissions plummet – and that the Government was responsible – were rebuffed by Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, at question time.

He told MPs that admission levels in museums, including a mass of independent ones, had been at record levels last year, Museums Year. The Government's repeatedly stated policy was that it was for the board of trustees in each institution to take the decision whether or not to introduce charges. This was against a background of a real increase in resources for the national institutions on behalf of the taxpayer.

Dr John Marek (Wrexham, Lab) said that attendances at the National Maritime Museum, where charges had been introduced, had dropped by 35 per cent; at the National History Museum by 40 per cent; and at the Welsh National Museum by 85 per cent. When would he recognize the evidence?

Mr Luce said that at the Imperial War Museum admissions were up on the last full year in which there had been no charges. At others, there had been usually a temporary drop in the first year or two before they picked up again.

"If (museums) are to introduce charges, my view is very strong that they must link it to an improvement in services to the public and that is what most of them are doing."

Sir Philip Goodhart (Buckingham, C) said that the national museums in virtually all the other EC countries had admission charges. "If it is right on the Continent, why should it not be right here?"

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## Labour cheers greet Meyer

Sir Anthony Meyer (North West Chwyd, C), defeated on Friday by his constituency party following his challenge to Mrs Thelma Leader, was cheered by Labour MPs at Welsh questions.

To laughter, Mr Michael Foot (Blaenau Gwent, Lab) suggested that the Secretary of State for Wales (Mr Peter Walker) make his annual speech outside the state of the economy in Sir Anthony's constituency. Indeed, he said, it might have been better if Mr Walker had made it last week.

Mr Wyn Roberts, Minister of State for Wales, said that Sir Anthony was very much his own man, stating later that he had enormous courage.

## Welsh factory rates to fall

Under the new business rate, and with the Government's funding, factories and warehouses in Wales would have a 27 per cent reduction on their rate burden, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said during Commons questions.

## Baker gives an apology

There had been a written apology from Mr Kenneth Baker, Chairman of the Conservative Party, for an incident on Friday in which a party official had obtained a seat in the box reserved for civil servants, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) told MPs.

He said that he accepted the apology.

## Loans pledge

The Government will not take retaliatory action against the banks for not heeding the student loan scheme, the Prime Minister said in a written Commons reply.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Health; Prime Minister. Debate on the autumn statement.

Lords (2.30): Courts and Legal Services Bill, committee, second day.

## Troops die in clash with Tigers

Colombo — Eight Indian soldiers were killed in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka in an attack by the Indian Peace-keeping Force and the pro-Indian Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front on a Tamil Tigers camp (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Reports from Jaffna said that the Indians used helicopters and armoured carriers in the operation.

## Briton missing

Reykjavik (AP) — Rescuers have called off a search for Mr Stephen Reader, aged 25, from Wallington, Surrey, who disappeared during an attempt to climb Hvannadalshnukur, Iceland's highest mountain.

## Maoist killed

Lima (AP) — Señor Carlos Olivares del Carpio, a leader of the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas, was killed in a clash with police in the Peruvian southern Andes, officials said.

## Leper total

Lagos (AFP) — Nigeria officially has 193,715 lepers, but the Government believes that this figure is an underestimation. Mr Olikoye Ransome-Kuti, the Health Minister, announced here.

## Rebel claim

Nairobi (Reuters) — The rebel Somali National Movement claims it seized a government cargo ship in the Red Sea and shot down an air force jet which later tried to bomb it.

## Hanging death

Mbabane (Reuters) — Dr E. V. Dlamini, the head of the Swazi civil service and secretary to the Cabinet, was found hanging at his home. Crime is not suspected.

## Vatican post

Rome (AFP) — Cardinal Edmund Casimir Zoka, the Archbishop of Detroit, is to be the Vatican's new Budget Minister, church officials announced.

## Poles freed

Khartoum (Reuters) — Eritrean rebels have released the 30 Poles they captured from a ship in the Red Sea three weeks ago, officials said.

## Flights back

Lisbon (Reuters) — Passengers jammed Portugal's three international airports when flights resumed after a three-day pay strike by air-traffic controllers.

# Rambo-inspired rebels pit bow and arrow against gun

From Robert Cockburn, Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Hollywood is partly to blame for the intensifying guerrilla war on the South Pacific island of Bougainville, which has forced the Australian Government to announce plans to send in military forces to evacuate 1,000 nationals trapped by bow-and-arrow-wielding tribesmen.

For more than a year, rebel tribesmen on the island, 300 miles east of mainland Papua New Guinea, have resorted to spears, bows and arrows, home-made shotguns and the ample supply of bombs that were left over from the battles of the Second World War, in their fight to win independence and close the giant Bougainville Copper Mine.

The rebel leader, Mr Francis Ona, has been inspired by the Sylvester Stallone video, *Rambo: First Blood Part II*, in which the hero takes on his

enemies with a bow and arrow. It is compulsive viewing for his followers.

Some of those include "cannibals" who still worship the Second World War planes that suddenly appeared to parachute supplies into their untouched world during the battles with the Japanese. They still await their second coming.

Since Mr Robbie Namaliu, the Prime Minister, sent in troops to flush out the rebels, 4,000 local villagers have been forced into internment camps to make way for their operations.

Yet despite efforts by the Army to quell the rebel campaign, there are growing signs of unrest spreading to parts of the mainland among other tribal leaders who are unhappy at foreign mining operations on their land. Senator

Gareth Evans, the Australian Foreign Minister, has not ruled out "a limited" military action by Australian forces against rebel tribesmen fighting for independence from the mainland Government.

The small guerrilla war on Bougainville has done enormous damage to the economy and the efforts of Mr Namaliu to unify his nation of 3.5 million people. Many of them live in isolated communities, cut off by impenetrable jungles, swamps, mountains and 800 different languages.

Papua New Guinea, which gained independence from Australia in 1975, has a lively parliamentary democracy, but which is fraught with tribal differences.

On Bougainville, the Australian mining company CRA failed to negotiate with local people and share out the

massive profits from the mine. The result has been an uprising by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

Mr Ona's warriors forced the Bougainville copper mine to close down in May, denying the Government 35 per cent of its national budgetary income. Mr Ona wants the mine to close permanently, US\$10

million (US\$10 million) in compensation for the vast open-cut mine, the pollution which it has created on traditional farming land, and

their independence. A government claim that Mr Ona had died recently in a tribal coup is not widely believed.

"No body," said a Port Moresby taxi-driver, "no proof."

Dead or alive, Mr Ona has overcome the traditional rivalry between mainland people and Bougainvilleans who look east to the Solomon Islands for their homeland. Mainlanders know Bougainvilleans as *as blong saupan* in pidgin-English, comparing their very dark skins to blackened cooking pots.

Proud of their complexities, the Bougainvilleans refer to the paler mainlanders as "redskins".

For Mr Namaliu, the task of keeping together the country's fragile unity and economy grows worse by the day.

"They tried to bomb the

airport here," said Jonah, a taxi-driver, pulling up outside Port Moresby's airport yesterday. "I wouldn't fight against the rebels because they fight for the land — that's what's important."

As the numbers of rival rebel forces and government troops increase daily on Bougainville Island, the fighting has escalated and reached into the heart of the provincial capital, Arawa.

Last night, the area was again rocked by an explosion after the nightly curfew came into effect. The town was shaken by a large explosion on Sunday night.

Using one of hundreds of bombs abandoned here after the Second World War, the Bougainville Revolutionary Army destroyed two warehouses just a few streets away from the army headquarters

where the campaign against them is co-ordinated.

By yesterday morning, all that remained of the big Kaimati warehouse in central Arawa was crumpled wreckage and burning supplies of food and equipment. The revolutionary army, under its military leader, Mr Sam Kaona, is getting bolder. Mr Kaona, who was trained as an officer by the Australian Army, now leads at least 1,000 rebels hidden in the jungle.

Frustrated by their inability to counter Mr Kaona's guerrilla tactics, the Papua New Guinea Defence Force soldiers reacted with their now familiar reprisal. By daylight, they were reported by local people to have entered the hillside village immediately above the wrecked stores and burnt down houses — tactics used before after rebel attacks.

## Cave-in on crowded Tokyo street



Onlookers surveying the section of a busy Tokyo street which sank 17 ft yesterday, injuring at least four pedestrians and a motorist. At least two cars and a motor scooter were found buried in the hole, measuring 42 ft by 32 ft, said a metropolitan fire board spokesman (AP

reports). He said at least four pedestrians were hurt by flying stones and debris, but it was not known if anyone had been in the cars when the street collapsed. An 18-year-old driver suffered a head injury when he braked suddenly to avoid the hole. Three others were injured when

hundreds of people crowded around to look. Japan Railways officials said the street sank near the site where the railway is digging a tunnel for super-express trains, but it was not known whether the collapse was related to the excavations.

## Seoul parties in merger as prelude to reform accord

From John Gittelsohn, Seoul

President Roh of South Korea joined two opposition party leaders yesterday to form a powerful new coalition that could transform the country's political landscape and pave the way for sweeping reforms of the Constitution.

Backers of the new coalition described the surprise merger as a revolution that will end South Korea's long tradition of political confrontation. But critics of the move claimed that it amounted to a political coup d'état.

The new grouping is composed of Mr Roh's ruling Democratic Justice Party, the opposition Reunification Democratic Party of Mr Kim Young Sam, and Mr Kim Jong Pil's New Democratic Republican Party. Together, they hold 225 seats in the 299-member National Assembly, a comfortable enough margin to meet the two-thirds majority which is required to amend the Constitution.

"We've decided to launch a new political style that gives hope for the future," Mr Roh announced after his nine-hour marathon session with the two Kim's, who stood at his side as he spoke. He cited the need to prepare for unification with

North Korea and to cope with a recent economic downturn as the basis for the party leaders' decision to join forces. He promised that the new coalition would support democracy, capitalism and the country's reunification.

The leaders of the three parties have been reported to have agreed in principle to change the Constitution from the current US-type presidential system to a European-style parliamentary system led by a prime minister. Under the agreement, Mr Roh, who still has three years of his presidency remaining, will finish his term.

Left out in the cold was Mr Kim Dae Jung, the opposition leader, who angrily denounced the accord as "a coup against the representative system of politics and a revolt against the people's sovereignty".

He demanded that all elected officials resign and face a new set of elections for having betrayed the people.

There were scattered demonstrations in Seoul and other cities. Students urging the overthrow of the regime clashed with police at five campuses in the capital.

Meanwhile, about 100

workers were detained in the Seoul suburb of Suwon, as riot police blocked their attempt to launch a new labour federation.



## SPECTRUM

# The pride of Mr Frank Warren

Seven weeks after he was gunned down, the promoter with the reputation as one of the hardest men to come out of London's boxing sub-culture tells Barbara Amiel of the moment that was his greatest personal humiliation

On the night of November 30, 1989 the boxing promoter Frank Warren got out of his Bentley outside the Broadway Theatre in Barking, east London, and a gunman pumped bullets point-blank into his chest and stomach. Perhaps the popular response was summed up by rival boxing promoter Mickey Duff, who remarked that "Frank makes enemies easier than just about anyone I know". A brief glimpse, one thought, of a bit of society only to be seen should a bullet kick up a stone, sending the insects beneath briefly into the light.

Seven weeks after the shooting, Warren walks stiffly. But his manner is easy. One can never know what lies behind the demeanour of a man when he talks to the Press, of course. In a clever man, one who can dissemble with ease or may have nine sides for nine lives, the best of qualities can coincide with the most unattractive. Do they, in Frank Warren?

"The most humiliating experience in my life," Warren explains, "was the shooting. You see I wasn't frightened, I was embarrassed more than anything else, vulnerable and embarrassed. That's what I felt in the hospital, embarrassed because, let's face it, I personally want control of the situation."

"The worse thing you can do is humiliate someone. It's worse than pain. I had my clothes off and I was naked and it was weird because I was lying on a table and I couldn't catch my breath and my lungs and the blood and then I would disappear and come back and I kept thinking this is a comedy, a farce."

It made sense of the newspaper reports that Warren was trying to sit up in hospital and talk and explain that he was all right, even while some of his stomach and lungs had been blown away. I wondered what he wanted to do to the man who tried to kill him.

"It's a strange sort of conflict. I really am against capital punishment. I'm involved in boxing, which is obviously a very brutal and physical sport. To actually take someone, with a rope and hang them or electrocute them or cut their heads off, well, I don't think that's the way forward. But the chap who shot me (embarrassed laugh) ... no, I don't think so."

The statistic: Warren, aged 37, is a slightish man, about 5ft 9in, half a stone underweight since the shooting ("I'm finally beginning to put it back on"), with a wife 10 years younger than himself who was formerly a model with *Vogue* and four children (one from a previous marriage). His manner is

quiet. There is nothing flashy, no visible jewellery, bright clothes or crocodile shoes. "I know," he says, "that if you are not in the world of boxing you have a different attitude to it. You have this Hollywood image, big cigars and everything. People have got this one thing in their mind, and it just doesn't happen. I got shot by somebody who's got a problem."

Well, maybe. The truth is, when you are a boxing promoter like Warren, you are always running on thin ice. You are dealing with people who may have very few means of coping with their problems except violence.

"I can't justify boxing," Warren says, as if reading my thoughts. "You can't justify two people punching each other. You can't do that. I mean, it's not a fight to the death and there is a lot of skill involved, otherwise you wouldn't have referees judging and making the decisions, but there must be damage. Somebody actually punching another person in the head has got to cause brain damage. I won't try and stand up and justify it."

Why, then, he involved in the sport? "I've earned money doing it and I won't deny it. But as long as people are aware of the dangers and as long as there are strict rules and supervision and the examining doctors can tell if you're susceptible to that type of damage, well ... But if I hadn't earned money, I'd be a paying fan, because I love boxing."

It is, I suppose, one of the last gladiatorial sports we have. "Absolutely!" Warren says with enthusiasm. "You know if you were to sell tickets to a public hanging, people would queue up, you couldn't sell enough ..."

Like many people in the world of boxing, he is anxious to point out that boxing has aristocratic origins. "It was always an event, not just a fight. Remember, there was the Marquis of Queensberry and, you know, the manager had a stable of boxers like a stable of racehorses which was all the gentry, you know, and nobody was allowed to cheer. The so-called gentry, from the National Sporting Club and the rich at the time watched the sport in silence."

In his early days he found it difficult to break into the world of boxing promotion dominated by the big names such as Jarvis Astaire, Mickey Duff and the British Board of Boxing Control. He founded a rival group, the National Boxing Council and took them all on. Lord Gowrie remembers meeting him when he was Minister in the Department of Employment.

"He came to the meeting with the Labour MP from Islington, infer and imply. Disinterested is often used to mean uninterested, and is widely regarded as a howler. In fact the first recorded uses of *disinterested*, by John Donne and Junius, are to mean uninterested, half a century before *uninterested* came into English."

We may (and do) deplore many of these changes; but if the tide of *vox populi* has set on a change, in the long trawl not even the strongest swimmers can fight against the tide.

"Prestigious" people, from our best writers to pop-singers, have more influence than most in changing the language. But language grows from the bottom up as well as from the top down. It is the only mass democracy, open to everybody who uses it. Lexicographers and linguists record the grunts and snorts coming up to them from us in their dictionaries, established "howlers" and all. It is the job of teachers to teach the best contemporary English, and to correct and expunge howlers. One of the best teachers is C.H. Rolph, who has written his weekly "Personally Speaking" column in the *Police Review* for the past 55 years. He is, though he will not forgive me, prestigious, and disinterested, and endearing, and splendid. And he has spotted a creeping confusion between *prevaricate* and *procrastinate*. Here are two examples from *The Times*. "Some fear Mr Ridley will *prevaricate*



The ringmaster: "I wasn't frightened," Warren says, "I was embarrassed more than anything else. Let's face it, I want control of the situation"

## 'Some of the people in the City are a hundred times worse than the people you meet in boxing'

Gowrie says. "He made his case well. He was a tough, bright entrepreneur. Like all entrepreneurs they can be uncomfortable sometimes because they are trying to cut through rules and regulations. Sometimes it works very well and sometimes it does not."

With the aid of Gowrie, Warren won his case and the monopolistic rules of the Boxing Board of Control were beaten down one by one. "But what I learnt from that," Warren says, "was that my National Boxing Council could only go so far. You need to become part

of the so-called Establishment and to take it there you need to be accepted by the Establishment, so that you can get on with your business."

That phrase, "getting on with business" is the theme of Warren's life. If he was not born with a sense of confidence, he has one now and only occasionally lapses into the phrases of his beginnings on a council estate in Islington. "Some people say I'm ruthless. I don't think so. I'm single-minded. I suppose boxing is a real sort of cynical and hypocritical world but, having said that, some of the

people in the City are a hundred times worse than the people you meet in boxing."

"... What I mean by that, you couldn't trust them as far as you can see them, although I've met some decent people in the City. But, the Establishment, well ... I don't spend time thinking about them. I just get on with my business. It's not what you wear or how you behave. Somebody either trusts you or they don't trust you. Of course there's people that look down their noses at me, but it's not going to change one thing that happens to me ... I'm not one of

those jumped-up jobs or whatever and I just take my time. I get on with it. You know, I can talk to them, charm them, whatever I want to do, but at the end of the day they aren't going to be there. So why break your balls for them?"

What makes Warren run, in fact, is he wants to be free in the most profound sense. Not to be told how to dress or how to behave or, importantly, what to be. His political ideas, for example, are confused.

"Idealistically speaking, I'm a Green ... I have a conflict, I

know. I used to be a real Tory but I looked at the hospital they took me to at Shooter's Hill, well, I couldn't believe the conditions. I just couldn't believe how dingy it was, how the conditions were so awful. Yet, you know, there were such great nurses and doctors. The National Health is a crime."

Warren worries about the elderly, the homeless. He expects the Government to ensure that children have jobs, that education is free. He is passionate about the drug problem and the destruction it is causing. "It happened in my family ... He continues: "Kids are the future. They are tomorrow."

But for himself, well, that is another story. He could have stayed on at school and become a professional man, an accountant or banker like he wants his children to be, "but I couldn't wait to get out and be free. The feeling of being free, although you're never free, are you? You know that you've got to conform."

He sees his success simply in terms of hard work. He dreams of turning the London Arena into the venue for the big shows he puts on (like next July's Frank Sinatra concert), which, in turn, would be filmed by his in-house video company to be sold as "product" to television satellite stations.

It is a marketing man's concept and vocabulary and one that, luck and the Establishment permitting, he might pull off. After all, this is the man that out-faced the London Docklands Development Corporation in a non-stop 23-hour meeting.

I wondered if he felt people were waiting to see him fall. "This country," he said, "is the best place in the world. It loves losers. It makes everybody feel good. I am not knocking Frank Bruno, but what happened? Frank Bruno fought Mike Tyson and he never won a round, and he's a hero. That's the mentality ... They'd love to see me fall on my arse, and I have been very close to falling on it."

Is he a clever dealer or, as one competitor said, "a man who breaks down doors before he sees if they're open?" According to Warren, it is simply a question of making sure you have all the cards and playing them right. "I don't believe in taking advantage of people. I think it's a question of being able to handle the situation."

I can't help but admire his discipline. He sits ramrod straight on an uncomfortable bar-stool, not a drop of tea, coffee or scotch to ease the discomfort his chest would still give him. Just to test his consistency, I ask him again. "What would you say was the most humiliating moment of your life?"

There is a slight flicker in the Mongolian fold over his eyelids. "When I was shot," he repeats. "I tell you, I had a gun in my hand, I tell you without a doubt, I wouldn't have shot to stop him. I would have shot to kill him. That's what I felt then. I hated what happened. Humiliation. Humiliation is one of the worst things you can do to a person."

A normal response? How can I judge. I feel the same way myself.

### NEW WORDS FOR OLD

## English pulled up by its roots

ing" column in the *Police Review* for the past 55 years. He is, though he will not forgive me, prestigious, and disinterested, and endearing, and splendid. And he has spotted a creeping confusion between *prevaricate* and *procrastinate*. Here are two examples from *The Times*. "Some fear Mr Ridley will *prevaricate*

to spread the legs apart in Latin; *varus* is knock-kneed. *Procrastinate* is the attitude of *mañana*: never do anything today that you can postpone until tomorrow. *Prevaricate* is falsehood. They are quite distinct, and all good men and women will rally round Rolph to maintain the useful distinction."

But if enough professors of law and other writers in *The Times* carry on using *prevaricate* where they mean *procrastinate*, the next edition of *The Oxford English Dictionary* will have to record the howler. If Latin were more widely taught, there would be less barbaric confusion about the roots of our language.

Philip Howard

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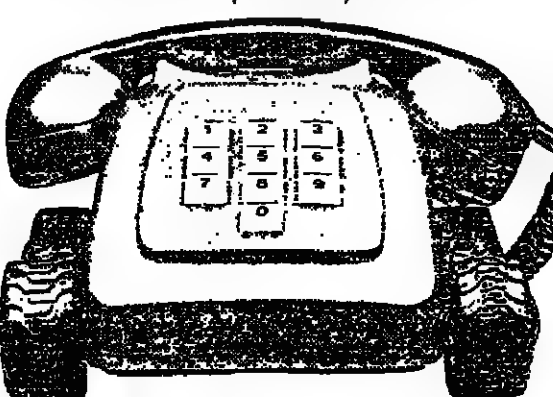
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# TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

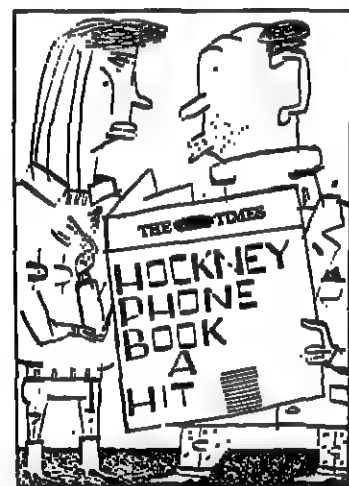
There was a moment of severe embarrassment at last week's unique and remarkably amicable 35-nation military doctrine seminar at the Hofburg Palace in Vienna, where former sworn enemies sat down and jawed peaceably about their various strategies. After the big guns of defence staff from the likes of the US, the Soviet Union, Britain and France had said their pieces about East-West security, who should spring to life but the delegate from Cyprus. He pointed out that this was the only country present that was under occupation. He went on to harangue Turkey, which still has 27,000 troops in northern Cyprus. Turkey's top general then stood up and apologized to the august company for the behaviour of his "colleague". It was sad, he said, that Cyprus had chosen such an occasion to raise this matter. If the Turks stay much longer, the question of which is the only European country with an occupying army still on its soil may soon feature in Trivial Pursuit.

Christopher Martin, the new headmaster of Millfield — the Somerset school best known for producing sports stars — is about to lose his place on the Headmasters' Conference, one of the tightest and most prestigious closed shops in education. Membership is limited to around 230, and is based on a mixture of the man and his school. Martin, as head of Bristol Cathedral School, founded in 1542, has been a long-standing member of HMC, but I fear that Millfield fails to qualify, in spite of fees exceeding £8,000 a year. His old friends in HMC will now busy themselves on getting Martin re-elected, but I suspect he will first have to mend some of the ways of his new charge, which are perhaps best described as unconventional.

• Estate agents' English fails to improve. One near here is offering "five unique houses" for sale.

The Ministry of Defence, the Stormont authorities and even British Telecom seem to be bending over backwards in their eagerness to facilitate complaints from Dublin about the conduct of British soldiers in Ulster. The Army's Northern Ireland headquarters' main switchboard number at Lisburn has been changed. Anyone telephoning the old number gets a polite recorded message which, after giving the new number and STD code, adds helpfully: "If you're calling from the Irish Republic, the code is 080846." Is this, I wonder, a devilish Whitehall ploy to encourage Haughey and Co to complain direct to the Army top brass, thereby obviating the need for the Anglo-Irish secretariat at Maryfield, which so sticks in the craw of many an Ulster Unionist?

BARRY FANTONI



'Apparently they're changing hands for telephone numbers'

Are we really becoming a nation of nabby-pambies in the matter of drink? I learn with some horror that the Sheraton Skyline Hotel at Heathrow is making a fetish out of water, offering diners ten different bottled varieties from eight countries as though they were *premier cru* vintages of something more interesting. Ask for the water list, and you will find Evian ("well balanced"), Highland Spring ("rich in bicarbonates"), NZ Natural ("low in mineral salts"), and so on. I have one very good reason for never drinking the mineral water in this column's local place of refreshment; they charge over a pound for a little bottle.

Comedian Dave Allen's lapse in using that nasty word on his show is as nothing compared to the evidence presented to the Broadcasting Bill standing committee by the ever-vigilant Mrs Mary Whitehouse. She and her team monitored all TV output from December 20 to January 5, and in their seven pages of evidence list 19 other utterances of the said word. Worst offenders were the films *Prizzi's Honour* (BBC2, Dec 30) and *Hollywood Shuffle* (C4, December 23). The latter, indeed, contained no fewer than 46 obscenities which Mrs W found offensive, from "dammit" upwards. It is as well this is a standing and not a select committee, otherwise the evidence would have to be published and we would be offended all over again.

If you think being a kept man is all beer and skittles, then you have never had two people fiddling with your trousers in a public place, while all the world wondered.

It was not a good weekend at all. To give you some idea of how good it wasn't, I should tell you that if I did not, this Monday afternoon, have certain obligations, e.g. binmen coming tomorrow, car booked in for new brakepads on Thursday, I should even now be lying beneath the plastic surgeon's dissembling scalpel, clutching the one-way ticket to Paraguay which would give me at least an outside chance of starting a new life beyond the derision of my native soil.

You toy with television at your peril. If the trauma of the past few days has taught me nothing else, it has taught me that. As a matter of fact, it has taught me several

The most remarkable aspect of the proposal to give a quarter of a million Hong Kong Chinese the right of abode in Britain is that ministers seem surprised that it caused a controversy. Yet many of them were in the House of Commons during the row over the admission of the 28,000 Ugandan Asians expelled by the Amin government. Surely they should have realized the hazards of promoting a new wave of immigration on a scale nine times as great.

The Macmillan government of the early Sixties had allowed, indeed encouraged, immigration from the Caribbean which brought about changes in Britain far beyond any which might reasonably have been expected to result from a change of government from one party to another. Yet it never sought the authority of the electors, nor did it announce its policy decision or its implications. It was left to a Labour Home Secretary, James Callaghan — a politician particularly sensitive to the feelings of the average man and his family — to stem the flow and to the Heath government to enact the 1971 Immigration Act.

That should have been the end of the matter for, in his mani-

## Racist populism? I believe in honouring our pledge

by Norman Tebbit

festos for the February 1974 general election, Mr Heath wrote: "We have provided the necessary means for preventing any further large-scale permanent immigration."

In four elections since then, Conservative candidates have sought votes by repeating in some form Mr Heath's undertaking. In the 1987 manifesto the then Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, approved the words, "Immigration for settlement is now at its lowest level since control of Commonwealth immigration first began in 1962. We will tighten the existing law to ensure that control over settlement becomes even more effective."

Of course, it is not unusual for election promises to remain unfulfilled. Circumstances change; indeed the electors themselves may, by their own actions, prevent undertakings from being fulfilled, as when trade unions

wrecked the Labour government's social contract. To deliberately, flagrantly and gratuitously break a clear undertaking made at five consecutive general elections is another matter. I realize that ministers facing an intractable problem may choose to perform a U-turn and hope to justify their actions, but they should not feign hurt and indignation when colleagues who prefer to stand on their word rather than their heads take an opposite view.

I have not been surprised that some politicians and political journalists should criticize those of us who oppose the introduction of another large minority community into Britain, but I am shocked that so many express such contempt for the idea that it is part of the contract of

democracy that undertakings clearly and firmly given should not lightly be tossed aside.

There are three threads within the Hong Kong immigration controversy. There is the issue of whether further massive immigration of another distinct ethnic and cultural group is in the best interests of Britain's present inhabitants; whether the anxiety of Hong Kong people can or should be overcome by granting a right of abode in the hope that it will not be exercised; and whether the Hong Kong problem is, in fact, a Chinese problem that can be solved only in China.

Are the Government's critics right on the central issue of immigration? I have long opposed the establishment of large un-integrated communities di-

vided from the British people by culture, language, religion and ethnic origin. Such communities are a potential source of division, friction and, at the extreme, violence. They bring about unacceptable double standards of custom and even law.

Some men are prosecuted for bigamy; others have drawn state benefit to finance it. The law is used to stop stupid and unfair discrimination against Muslim girls whose religion requires the wearing of headscarves in school, but the law is tactfully forgotten when Muslim mobs are incited to murder. British children in some schools are left confused and muddled with no sense of their own cultural and political heritage, all to appease those attracted here by the fruits of that very heritage.

Experience suggests that the divisions, hurts, slights, quarrels and rivalries of diverse

communities within nations are more likely to generate civil strife than to act as the cement essential for social stability.

The Government's arguments are incoherent. If it believed that a quarter of a million Hong Kong Chinese would benefit Britain then logically it should seek to attract them here. If it believed that issuing passports to 50,000 heads of households would help to stabilize Hong Kong and keep people there, then logic dictates that it should issue 100,000 and double the assurance. If it believed that by issuing passports it could persuade the holders to stay in Hong Kong until 1997, then they should not be valid until 1997.

The fact is that the Foreign Office has blundered again. To Peking the passport offer threatens to drive into China itself a wedge of people of divided loyalties. Our government may have forgotten that no man can honour two masters, but the Chinese have not. It is time the Government accepted that Hong Kong's problems can be solved only in China and not by unilateral British action.

A country never looks weaker than when it tries to wield power it has not got, and Britain has no power to coerce China.

C.J. Walker presents the Armenian view of the southern Soviet bloodshed

## Moscow's blind eye to injustice

The ravines and rugged, weather-beaten mountains that contain the region of Nagorno Karabakh have sharpened the sense of injustice of its Armenian villagers and fired their spirit of defiance. Since February 1988 they have found a voice, and Karabakh has become the main element in a fierce struggle between the Soviet republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Karabakh (or Artsakh) was Armenian for centuries, as its monasteries and churches testify. Its highland terrain enabled the people to retain their Christianity when many of the lowlanders were converted by their Islamic conquerors. In the 18th century the people formed themselves into four principalities (or melikdoms) under the suzerainty of Persia: a spirit of independence and love of freedom lived on until the early years of this century.

Religion is the most obvious difference between the Armenians and the Muslim Azeris, but it is not the most important. Even before 1914 leading Azeris were adopting a secular outlook and the Armenians too had secular institutions. The point at issue over Karabakh today is not religion. (Christian Armenians living in Iran have not been slaughtered or burnt alive; indeed, since the 1979 revolution they have been given greater cultural and educational opportunities.) The conflict is rather one over national identity and territory: should Karabakh be part of the Azeri-Turkish world, or of the Armenian?

Even before 1914 Karabakh was denied any sort of identity suitable to its inhabitants. Although 92 per cent of its then population was Armenian, the Tsarist authorities linked the region to its lowland non-Armenian hinterland, despite the proximity of the "Armenian

district" that Nicholas I had created around Yerevan in 1828. At the end of the First World War the British occupying army, under General W.M. Thomson, prevented an Armenian partisan commander from securing the union of the region with Armenia. Finally the Bolsheviks, keen in 1921 to take advantage of Turkey's anti-imperialist rhetoric, and trying to edge Kemal on the way to communism, allocated Karabakh to Azerbaijan. The wishes of the inhabitants were ignored in the eagerness of the various rulers to secure regional agreements.

From that time onwards, human rights and democracy have been overlooked. Rights, it seems, can be recognized in Europe but not on the fringe of Asia. The people of Karabakh are educated Azeri Turks; development has been confined to the Azeri villages. Clinics, roads, irrigation, books in their own language, even the application of the rule of law — the Armenians of Karabakh have had almost none of them.

Such discrimination, particularly in an era of openness and reconstruction, is bound to have repercussions. And so it was that in February 1988 the people of Karabakh, with extraordinary bravery, and unknown to their fellow Armenians in Yerevan, resolved to break with the injustice of the past and declare their unity with Armenia. Such unity appeared to them to be *perestroika* in action at the most elementary level. Karabakh, the kidnapped child, seemed to have found its way home.

The bravery in confronting Azeri chauvinism with a non-violent call for justice and the end of an anomalous situation did not go unpunished. Within days there was a vicious pogrom in the Caspian town of Sumgait;



A firm hand too late: Soviet troops arrive yesterday in the Azerbaijani town of Ganja

Azeri mobs, led by the leader of the local Communist party (later dismissed for "administrative shortcomings") and with the connivance of the authorities in Baku, the capital, committed murderous atrocities on the minority Armenian population.

Here a mystery starts. For Moscow, instead of energetically prosecuting the perpetrators, temporized and hesitated; and when a death sentence was eventually passed on a minor official who had screamed "Kill the Armenians" through a megaphone, the Azeris, affronted, began another round of slaughter. Again, Moscow threw up its hands, as if to say "We can do nothing." More recently, Baku went unpunished for trying to starve Armenia by means of a blockade — an action reminis-

cent of the way in which officials prevented food being given to Armenian deportees in 1915. Every outrage that the Azeris committed against Armenia was apparently condoned.

Since then the Azeris' intolerant national pride has taken two forms. The first is the straightforward anti-minority violence in Baku, familiar in the situation of any foreign minority of bourgeois tastes and identity (such as the Jews) in an urban setting. The second is the assault on the ancient but, to the ruling group alien, Armenian villagers of Karabakh. This assault is just a continuation of the massive discrimination practised against the Armenians for 68 years.

Is a reasonable political solution possible for Transcaucasia, after the military situation has

stabilized? The conflict could be solved if the aggressive Turkish sentiments of Baku's rulers could be curbed. There are two possible scenarios. The first sees Transcaucasia keeping its present Soviet form with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia co-existing. No just solution would result from simple independence for the republics as they are. But the present situation without guarantees would spell genocide for Armenians anywhere in Azerbaijan — something which, on the evidence of last week, the authorities in Baku are prepared to connive at, if not actively want. So, on empirical evidence, Karabakh must become part of Armenia.

The mountain range of Azerbaijani territory separating Karabakh and Armenia need not

pose much difficulty, since it is inhabited by Kurds, and was in the early years of Soviet rule designated a Kurdish autonomous region, before Azeri chauvinism suppressed it too. Just after the 1988 demonstrations many of its villagers opted for an Armenian orientation, since Armenia respects Kurdish culture and identity; there is a chair of Kurdish studies at Yerevan University, Azerbaijan permits no such diversity.

That would deprive Azerbaijan of about 6 per cent of its territory. No Armenian seriously claims more, though some would like Ganja (Kirovabad). Will Azerbaijan really miss such a small amount of misgoverned territory? Economic sweeteners to Baku could compensate for the loss.

The second scenario is a little more risky. It will have to take into account the possibility of the independence of Georgia (something eagerly sought by its people) and of some form of unity, perhaps federal, between Soviet and Iranian Azerbaijan, although this would not be welcome in Tehran.

Where would this leave Armenia? Fairly isolated, to say the least. The only way forward then for the country would be to reopen the Armenian question, and seek legitimate territorial compensation from Turkey for the Armenian genocide of 1915. Only then could an independent Armenia, with internationally guaranteed borders, survive to play a full and appropriate part in world affairs, and only then could it overcome the ferocious chauvinist ambitions of its neighbours.

C.J. Walker is the author of *Armenia: The Survival of a Nation*, to be republished shortly by Routledge.

Vernon Bogdanor urges new measures to ensure equal opportunity

## Wooring women to work

thirds of qualified solicitors have ceased to practice. In 1987, although 33 per cent of qualified barristers were women, only 14 per cent were practising; the figures for women solicitors were 54 per cent and 19 per cent.

In the universities, although the proportion of women undergraduates increased from 35 per cent to 42 per cent between 1975 and 1988, only 3 per cent of professors are women.

The Hansard Society exists to promote wider understanding of parliamentary government, and has long been concerned about the under-representation of women in public and parliamentary life. In 1987, 609 men were elected to the House of Commons and only 41 women. Since women obtained the vote in 1918 only 139 have taken their seats in the House. Britain is very near the bottom of the league table of modern democracies in terms of the proportion of women in Parliament, and at

the very bottom of those holding senior political office.

The relative paucity of women in public life means that their interests are not properly represented. Since 1986, there has been a non-Cabinet ministerial group on women's issues; it has no financial resources and the current chairman and eight of the 12 departmental representatives on the group are men.

We, as a nation, are committed by our public philosophy and by law to ensure genuine equality of opportunity for women. Yet, despite pleas from the CBI and other bodies, governments have refused to allow tax deductions for child-care expenses or to relieve employer-subsidized nursery care of taxation. At current rates, workplace nurseries attract a higher rate of taxation as a benefit-in-kind than company cars.

There is a clear link between the provision of child-care facilities and the continuing employ-

ment of women with young children. In France, Belgium and Denmark, where publicly subsidized pre-primary school care is widely available, well over half the women with under-fives go to work; in Britain, where public provision is minimal, the figure is fewer than one-third — and most of those part-time.

Inflexible and traditional methods of organizing work also do much to hamper women. Fixed schedules are the norm, with

senior positions dependent on a full-time, uninterrupted commitment. Yet more than 40 per cent of local authorities now operate job-sharing schemes; doctors, teachers and librarians are among those who benefit.

In the private sector, Marks & Spencer has for some years provided part-time career paths for women, and the Law Society has recommended the introduction of part-time careers for solicitors, including part-time partners, but few firms have established such arrangements.

*Women at the Top* commends British Rail and Littlewoods for setting voluntary targets for recruitment and promotion; BP's highly flexible career break scheme, Mars Confectionery's innovative use of specialist advertising to attract senior women and University College London, which has three times as many women professors as the average. Such enlightened employers, still the exception,

show how much can be achieved, but also how far there is to go.

For equality of opportunity cannot be achieved by government action alone. It relies also on the co-operation of institutions. Most large institutions now claim to be committed to the principle of equality of opportunity. But many of the barriers preventing women from achieving parity with men are the result not of ill-will but of insensitivity. Equal opportunity codes of practice are of little use unless backed by rigorous programmes of monitoring and targets. The test must be not good intentions, but the actual percentage of women in senior positions.

The achievement of equal opportunity for women is now more urgent than ever, not only on grounds of justice, but also to ensure that Britain ceases to waste the abilities of one-half of its population. In the 1990s, the best person for the job will, more often than not, be a woman.

The author, a fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, was a member of the Hansard Society commission. Its report is available from the Hansard Society, 16 Gower St, London WC1E 6DP (£7.50).

## A little snappy with my dresser



ALAN COREN

This time, however, I was told that I should have a dresser. He would pick me up on Saturday morning, and we should trawl the shops together under the guidance of his professional eye.

Guy duly materialized. A charming bloke, if a little flamboyantly shrill for the early hour, and interestingly turned out in piebald buckskins which, I discovered, he runs up himself. He was carrying a little cardboard model of the set which I was to front, and indeed, a little cardboard model of me, in an emerald jacket. Guy, who is after all paid to be sensitive, caught my shudder.

"Yes," he said, "it is a tiny bit whoopsy. But I do think we want to make something of a splash, don't you? I mean, it isn't *Panorama*."

It was a long day, Saturday. Did you see me in Austin Reed? I was

the one in the red velvet blouson, shrinking behind a trouser-rack while Guy cried at the assistant, "No, no, no, he's much too bonny for scarlet!"

Did you see me in Cecil Gee? I was the one in the green plaid waistcoat trying to pass himself off as a dummy while Guy cried "Can you wave your hands about, love? Can you give something?"

Did you see me in Simpson's? I was the one in the ivory seersucker, vainly struggling to look more seer and less snicker while Guy and his new friend the floorwalker went into hysterical convulsions about my backside.

And almost the worst of all was that Guy resolutely refused to

divulge our relationship. "Tell them it's for telly, and they come over all of a doodah," he explained. "Let them think we're just buddy-buddy."

I stared at him. He gave me a little shove. This was in Harrod's. And the worst of all? The worst of all was that Guy was carrying a big bag of notes. Every time he said, "Yes, he looks lovely, I'll take it," he snapped open the bag, and peeled the wad. I stood by the till, jutting my jaw rhomboid and gravelling my voice till the windows rattled.

Selish, really. For when, exhausted, we closed the nightmare in a pub and I came clean on my discomfort, Guy put down his gin and said: "Yes, well, and what about my image?"

And I said: "What about your image?"

And Guy said: "Well, you're hardly Lord Alford, love."

هكذا من الادل





1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

No spectacle on the political stage is more fascinating than the decomposition of reformed communism during the interval between the revolutions and the elections in central Europe. The reformists came to power unexpectedly. Installed with Mr Gorbachev's blessing, revamped and renamed, equipped with new leaders and new slogans, the revisionist parties seized their chance. At the same time they tried to exploit the presumed immaturity of the opposition in order to cling to power.

It was always an outside chance that they would succeed in both aims. Now, however, it looks probable that they will succeed in neither. Mr Gorbachev's apparent ability to work political miracles was useful to the reformists as long as the Ceausescu and Honecker, the Husaks and Zhivkovs were in charge. As the Soviet leader's reputation is eclipsed by insurgent subject nations, his patronage has become insufficient to inspire respect in Romania the people refuse to believe that he was "behind" the overthrow of the Ceausescu clan. Mr Gorbachev's liberal Leninism is no longer the standard by which these nations judge themselves.

The purge of the gerontocracy was, moreover, a policy which was bound to yield diminishing returns. Of the long-serving icons of communist orthodoxy in central Europe, only President Jaruzelski now remains. The ostracization of the fallen tyrants has come too late. In the Hungary of 20 years ago Janos Kadar was certainly less despised than his present heir Mr Nyers; even Mr Dubcek, rehabilitated but still an unrepentant Marxist, enjoys incomparably less prestige than he did in 1968. Socialism with a human face is all very well; but as Mr Gary Kasparov, the Soviet world chess champion, now a refugee from Baku, remarked: "Frankenstein's monster also had a human face."

Since Christmas, the reformist communist parties have shed members and figureheads at a rate which must be alarming for their loyalists. In Poland the communists are

already obliged to fall back on generals to fill their remaining significant posts in government. The appointment of Mr Vachav Havel to the Czechoslovak presidency has whetted Polish appetites for the replacement of General Jaruzelski by Mr Lech Walesa or, should he be unwilling, some no less vigorously anti-communist head of state.

It is the same story elsewhere: the odds on Hungary's leading reformist, Mr Imre Pozsgay, inheriting his country's presidency have lengthened in recent weeks, despite the efforts of his and Prime Minister Nemeth's "democratic socialist" Government to distance themselves from their disgraced and emasculated party. In Prague the Prime Minister, Mr Marian Calfa, resigned from the Communist Party last week before it even had a chance to change its name. It is entirely conceivable that Mr Gregor Gysi, the East German party leader, could follow his deputy's example last weekend, by joining the rival Social Democrats. If he does not, it will be Prussianism, not socialism, that restrains him.

If this process of decline continues at the present rate, it may be a metaphysical question whether these communist parties will still exist to fight the multi-party elections due to take place between spring and summer. Many reformist communists seem now to be calculating that their cause will stand a better chance of survival carrying on a ghostly life after death inside the opposition parties. In Romania, for instance, former luminaries of the old anti-Ceausescu wing of the party, like Mr Silviu Brucan, enjoy great influence inside the National Salvation Front.

There is nothing necessarily sinister in this; but those who provide safe havens for the politically homeless should be aware of what they are about. Opposition parties which make no compromises with the communists, such as the left-of-centre Free Democrats in Hungary or the right-of-centre German Social Union in East Germany, stand a better chance of success at the polls in the long run than those which hesitate to break decisively with the past.

## LABOUR'S LOCAL DIFFICULTY

Labour believes that the impact of the community charge will be adverse to the Conservatives' electoral prospects. It would certainly be understandable if it devised its own amendments to add to those with which the Government has already tried to make the much criticized new local tax more palatable.

Labour will not advance its own cause in setting off in the direction it now contemplates, however. Its provisional intention is to replace the community charge as a means of raising local revenue by a property tax. This would not be a flat rate, but would be levied according to each individual's "ability to pay" according to his other means.

A return to a tax on property to raise local revenue would be perfectly practicable. The rating system was just such a tax and it was criticized because it took no account of the difference of means between individuals living in houses of the same "value." Labour's proposed device for overcoming this difficulty, however, is an unholy marriage between a tax on each individual's local property and his other "means," as certified by the Inland Revenue. (Whether these means include income, capital, or both, is not clear.) The outcome would be a bureaucratic morass which would make for an accountant's dream and a citizen's nightmare.

Labour could still, of course, seek a formula for a simple local income tax, though if it does it will meet the objection that it is no more than an adjunct of national taxation and the Treasury will resist removing part of the total national income tax from its control. The idea of a local property tax enmeshed with the already complex national tax system would be far worse, however.

If the basis of payment is to be not only the value of the local property but also general ability to pay, logic would require the basis of

tax to be each local taxpayer's property in general. How, otherwise, could the tax embrace, say, a man exceptionally wealthy in terms of pensions, annuities and other investments who chose not to live in property he owned but in a grand rented house?

The only property basis on which he could be assessed according to his ability to pay would be his general capital wealth. In other words, it would be a general wealth tax applied to local purposes. To the extent that it would be an allocation of part of the national assessment, it would end any pretence that local spending authorities should be accountable to their voters by having to raise locally what they spend locally.

Labour's ideas appear to be the brainchild of Mr Bryan Gould, the chief environment spokesman and Mr David Blunkett. Mr Gould has already spread alarm in his party by suggesting that those who have shares in former nationalized industries may have to forgo dividends if all the profits are required for investment purposes as prescribed by government. Now he promotes the idea that people already struggling to pay mortgages on their houses should also have to pay a tax on a notional property value augmented according to their savings and earnings.

As a virtual extension of national income tax, it would undermine Labour's vaunted intention not to raise total taxation but simply to add a lower rate for lower earners and a higher rate for top earners. It could sound the knell of the Opposition's hopes of winning back those middle class and skilled worker votes it needs for victory. The outcome would be a distraught cry from the polling booths of "Save the poll tax - all is forgiven" as would-be defectors stamped back to the Conservatives.

## ECUMENICAL SPRING?

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has described the present state of church unity as "wintry." All the main Christian denominations set aside one week in January each year to pray together for unity, and this year's events coincide with a cool period. The advantage for churchmen of the "winter" metaphor is that it does not last for ever, thus justifying continued struggle even when the climate is unfriendly.

Last night Dr Runcie took part with a host of notables from other churches in a unique service of ecumenical celebration, the like of which would not have been conceivable 25 years ago. It was held to celebrate the entry of the Roman Catholic Church as a serious player in the unity game, which began with the Second Vatican Council's decree on ecumenism promulgated in 1965.

It also celebrated the arrival of new ecumenical organizations in Britain which will take over later this year from the British Council of Churches. The new structures, which have the unlovely name of "ecumenical instruments," are an advance on the old, partly because they have absorbed the lessons of the almost permanent impasse which had descended over the council's work, and partly because the Roman Catholic Church is itself to be a full member, which it never was under the previous regime.

The fact that all the major non-Roman Catholic British churches have been prepared to see the winding up of the British Council of Churches for the sake of gaining Roman Catholic participation is a measure of the enormous difference the Second Vatican Council's ecumenical decree has made in the last quarter century. It is not just the decree, however. The whole process of renewal in the Catholic Church, set in hand by Vatican II, has turned that Church into a much more attractive ecumenical partner.

Free Church leaders were present in force for last night's service of celebration, held appropriately enough in Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral. It suggests that ecumenical events in England will in future no longer be so effortlessly dominated by Anglicans, and it points to the advantages for the smaller churches of relating simultaneously and on equal terms to two much larger churches.

In the last 20 years both the Methodist and the United Reformed Churches have had their fingers burnt by the Church of England when it turned down opportunities never likely to occur again to build a native pan-Protestant church. It is the arrival of the Roman Catholic Church on the ecumenical scene which has provided the present opportunity for a fresh start. Having disappointed a series of ecumenical partners, of which the Roman Catholic Church is only the latest, the Church of England was in no position to start a new initiative itself.

It is still going to be a long haul. No one even speculates, at this stage, on what sort of unity is being sought, but it is hard to travel hopefully when the destination is so far over the horizon. What is now needed, and it is something to which the new ecumenical instruments are admirably suited, is a steady period of ecumenical growth at the local and regional level - previous initiatives have been largely at national and international level, remote from the pews.

Honest mutual understanding and acceptance between ordinary members of different churches are essential conditions for progress. Only then is church unity ever likely to be wholeheartedly supported by the mass of church members. Unless and until they do, finely devised schemes and skilful theological negotiations will once again prove to be in vain.

## Ivory stocks in Hong Kong

From Professor P. P. G. Bateson, FRS, and others  
Sir, The Government's decision to allow the sale of the Hong Kong ivory stockpile (report, January 18) will have far-reaching consequences for the African elephant.

The very survival of the elephant is threatened by poaching for ivory. The most effective strategy to prevent the elephant disappearing for ever is a three-pronged one: reduction of demand in the consumer countries, a trade ban, and action in the field to protect elephants.

In June, 1989, Britain, recognising the desperate plight of the elephant, was one of those countries which banned the import of ivory. Later, in October, 1989, Britain joined 76 other countries in voting to ban the ivory trade at an international conference (CITES) in Switzerland.

The incentive for poaching is removed if there is no trade in ivory. It is particularly reprehensible that the Government should now, at the last moment, decide to opt out of this agreement and allow the sale of the Hong Kong ivory.

By doing so, Britain has sent a signal to the poachers that they may kill more elephants because large quantities of ivory are again being traded. This will make the international effort to save the elephant from extinction far more difficult.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK BATESON (Provost, King's College, Cambridge),  
JOHN GARLICK (Department of Biological Anthropology, Cambridge),  
CHRIS GRAHAM (Department of Zoology, Oxford),  
ROBERT A. HINDE (Master, St John's College, Cambridge),  
C. HORN (Department of Zoology, Botany, Cambridge),  
R. G. WEST (Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, Cambridge, January 19).

## Juries on fraud

From Mr Duncan Heenan  
Sir, I would add a further reason to those put forward by Lord Benson (January 10) and Louis Blom-Cooper (January 16) for doing away with juries in fraud cases, culled from personal experience.

I was foreman of a jury in a simple fraud case in the early seventies. Elected as such I was the only accountant and it was a bookkeeping-based crime. After three days of carefully explained evidence the entire jury asked me to make the decision, as they could still not understand the case. They were not stupid, merely untrained in a technical area.

This opens up the question of all technically-based cases where specialist judges may well serve justice better than laymen can. This will require some training of the judiciary and they must not be too proud to admit it.  
Yours faithfully,  
DUNCAN HEENAN,  
21 Gothering Lane,  
Bishops Cleeve,  
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

## Computer-speak

From Mr Geoffrey A. K. Robinson  
Sir, The letter from Ms Vivien Allen (January 9) re instructions for machines written in "made-up doggie-woogie words" and the explanation of this phenomenon, i.e. manuals translated into English by foreigners not fully conversant with the language, rings a couple of bells here.

In 1988 we bought an industrial vacuum cleaner, country of origin not stated but presumably EC. It gives pleasing instructions how to "suckle". Last summer we bought an Italian-made fan. The best, and most incomprehensible instruction on this reads as follows: "To adjust in vertical even act on the knob situated on the upside of pedestal".

I feel that the composer of this heroic effort would have been someone after the heart of the late and much lamented Paul Jennings.  
Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY A. K. ROBINSON,  
Joseph Bell & Son Stained Glass,  
68 Park Street,  
Bristol, Avon.  
January 9.

## Tunnel visions

From Mr Malcolm Buchanan  
Sir, Sir Robert Reid's thoughtful speech, most of which was devoted to the achievement of efficient, market-led management of Britain's railways (report, January 9), has led to the usual calls for Government subsidies of everything from fares to new underground lines and the Channel tunnel high-speed link.

We need not necessarily, however, slavishly copy the French. In the first place London's railways carry far more long distance, high-fare passengers than those of Paris and are therefore inherently more profitable. Secondly, public transport subsidy does not of itself solve traffic congestion problems.

As to the Channel tunnel high-speed link, there were and remain options which the private sector would fund. But it is clear that the private sector will not fund BR's plan to construct two extremely expensive terminals less than two miles apart in central London, 20

## Causes and risks of cow disease

From Dr Michael A. Baldwin  
Sir, The title of your report of January 17 on "mad cow disease" or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, "Farmers count the cost of 'mystery' virus", was misleading. Nucleic acid is an essential component of viruses, whereas the pathogens responsible for BSE, scrapie, and related human diseases are resistant to inactivation by processes that destroy nucleic acid.

Professor Stanley Prusiner of the University of California, San Francisco, has produced an impressive array of evidence that these pathogens are not viruses. The infective particles, which can be extracted from infected brains, have been termed prions as the only clearly identified component is an unusual form of a protein.

Statements from the Government and the farming lobby, concerning the low risk levels arising from eating contaminated meat, should be treated with considerable caution. Incubation times for human prion disease may be several decades: 30 years being common for kuru, a prion disease which was perpetuated in New Guinea through ritualistic cannibalism. However, although such diseases are infectious, there is generally a species barrier that reduces the probability of human infection arising from eating animal products.

People have almost certainly eaten contaminated lamb and mutton for many generations without serious risk, but there is a danger in concluding the same will apply for BSE. The proteins arising from this apparently new prion disease may be closer to the human versions than the scrapie prion proteins, and could possibly be more readily translated to human forms.

Because of the very long incubation times it may be a generation or more before we can truly evaluate the risks.  
Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL A. BALDWIN,  
University of London,  
School of Pharmacy,  
29/39 Brunswick Square, WC1,  
January 19.

From Dr Helen C. Grant  
Sir, You quote in today's *Times* one of the world's most distinguished veterinary surgeons, I. H. Pattison, whose group at the Agricultural Research Council's laboratories in Compton was responsible for the first many transmission experiments on scrapie, the ovine brain disease which is the source of the outbreak of BSE in UK cattle.

It is these and other experiments which form the basis of today's anxieties about BSE. It

## A church seduced?

From the Bishop of Repton  
Sir, Many Anglicans will be grateful to John Witheridge (January 15) for his timely reminder of the contribution which F. D. Maurice, especially as interpreted by Michael Ramsey and Alec Vidler, can make to our thinking about the role of a national church within the State.

I wonder, however, whether he has failed to recognise adequately that it is not only the Church which has changed in the period of well over a century since Maurice's death. The nation and State also have changed enormously in that time. Not only have they undergone the process of radical secularisation, but they also now include large numbers of people of religious faiths other than the Christian one.

This means, among other things, that, however much the national (or any other) church may wish to propound and proclaim Maurician doctrines con-

cerning the significance of "God" and "Christ" for the contemporary nation and State, we have to recognise that "God" and "Christ" are words that sound even more strangely in the ears of most of our contemporaries than they did in Maurice's lifetime.

This is not, of course, a reason for the churches to stop propounding and proclaiming such doctrines, least of all as we enter upon the "Decade of Evangelism" called for by the bishops of the Lambeth Conference two years ago.

On the contrary, the realisation that evangelism is not only much more necessary but also much more complex than it was a century and a half ago, may serve another useful purpose: it may warn us against the danger of watering down the eternal truths of the Gospel simply in order to avoid being called "sectarian".  
Yours faithfully,  
HENRY REPTON,  
Les, Matlock, Derbyshire.  
January 15.

the bulk of the expected annual fees of some £300 inclusive then prevailing at my old school, Taunton School (a doubling in 18 years). However, our first child was not born until 1963, so the options were never taken up and the policy matured in 1973 to produce just over £1,700. Unfortunately, that figure then equated to just one year's fees!

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD DAUNCEY,  
34 Main Road,  
Naphill, High Wycombe,  
Buckinghamshire.  
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## Watchdog on health care

From the Director of the NHS Health Advisory Service  
Sir, Your report (January 12) pressure by the Royal College of Nursing for the establishment of a national network of independent inspectors to check on standards and quality of health care. In fact, such an organisation already exists, the NHS Health Advisory Service, albeit with a remit directed only to services for the elderly and for the mentally ill in hospital and in the community and, more recently, for problem drug users.

Our 1990-91 programme will comprise 52 review visits (ranging from two to three weeks) throughout England and Wales by *ad hoc* teams of senior, experienced, independent professionals (consultants and general nursing, and remedial therapy managers, in the main seconded from the NHS, together with a social services inspector).

As well as appraising the management and quality of the services provided, the teams examine the working relationships between the health and local authorities and voluntary agencies. They talk to members of staff, general practitioners, voluntary workers, members of the community health council, individual patients and relatives, and any others who wish to contact them. A report to the secretary of state is made public about three months later.

This system of objective peer reviews safeguards the public interest. It constitutes, in my view, an essential complementary mechanism (costing only about £1 million a year) to the clinical audit and quality assurance systems operated locally and regionally. It could easily and relatively cheaply be extended to act as an independent external monitor of a wider range of service provision.

The White Paper, "Caring for People: Community Care in the Next Decade and Beyond", announced that the NHS Health Advisory Service is under review: I submit that it would be sensible to consider our being given the extended remit I have outlined.  
Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP SEAGER, Director,  
NHS Health Advisory Service,  
Sutherland House,  
29-37 Brighton Road,  
Sutton, Surrey.  
January 16.

## Access to records

From Dr Anthony Bird  
Sir, This inner-city practice has for 12 years encouraged its patients, who so choose, to read and enquire about the contents of their medical records (letters, January 12). These are routinely handed by the receptionists to people as they arrive in the waiting-room to see the doctor or nurse.

Thus patients are recognised as rightful co-custodians of information about themselves. A few exceptions are made, currently 12 in a total of 4,500, to protect particularly vulnerable individuals from possible harm.

This service is appreciated and widely utilized by patients, enhances trust and in my experience has been opposed only by some doctors and a minority of medical students who mistakenly assume that patient access to information on proceedings which they, the patients, have initiated somehow requires justification.

Perhaps the definitive answer to this overweening attitude came from the Pakistani woman who attended the surgery with her husband and, when personally handed her records by the interpreter-receptionist, said: "I can't read English but you make me feel like a human being". Patients should claim this right.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY BIRD,  
Balsall Heath Health Centre,  
43 Edward Road,  
Balsall Heath, Birmingham 12,  
January 15.

## Crisis in the Caucasus

From Dr Tamara Dragadze  
Sir, I would respectfully ask the Reverend V. Nersessian (January 20) to carefully read my article (January 17) again. Throughout I refer to Azerbaijan accounts of recent events, not mine, and I carefully attributed the references to "Armenian oppression" and the pursuit of "Greater Armenia" to a member of the New Moussavat Party and other national figures.

These references in no way reflect my own views. I wrote as an anthropologist, inclined to evaluate people's attitudes to political issues rather than the issues themselves. It would be irresponsible of me not to attempt to convey scrupulously impartial knowledge if this can contribute to peace and reconciliation.  
Yours sincerely,  
TAMARA DRAGADZE,  
School of Oriental and African Studies,  
University of London,  
Malet Street, WC1.

## Rival service?

From Mr E. F. Smith  
Sir, The appointment card which my wife has just received from a Portsmouth hospital includes advertising material. One advertisement is for "K & K Body Repairs" - Crash Repair Specialists. Is this alternative medicine?  
Yours truly,  
E. F. SMITH,  
Red House, 90 Drift Road,  
Clanfield, Hampshire.  
January 14.











## THE ARTS

We get no  
kicks...

TELEVISION  
Sheridan Morley

Send for the Sisters, last night's *World in Action* (ITV) on female footballers, was as chilling as the average Saturday invasion of the pitch. At the start of a year which will see the introduction of identity cards for spectators and the quarantining of our World Cup squad on Sardinia, the programme asked why it was that, while Norway has 44,000 female footballers, and the USA something like three million, we still have fewer than 7,000.

The answer was all too evident from the interviews with ritual football cheerleaders. One of them noted that male violence was what made the adrenaline pump, while another feared that his caring and blasphemous from the grandstand might have to be drastically curtailed if a woman were discovered standing next to him, let alone on the pitch.

There was a bleakly funny interview with a Football League secretary, who could see a lot of wrong with having a boardroom from which women were denied access, even if they were involved with the game. The programme found evidence of a widespread masculine terror that allowing females near a pitch would lead to general castration and probably a severe loss of hair.

So long as soccer-watching is maintained in this country as a punishment rather than a pleasure, we are unlikely to arrive at the happy-family state of Italy. There, so far from being a male ghetto for butch things, the game is dominated by glamorous female goalkeepers who have also become media stars.

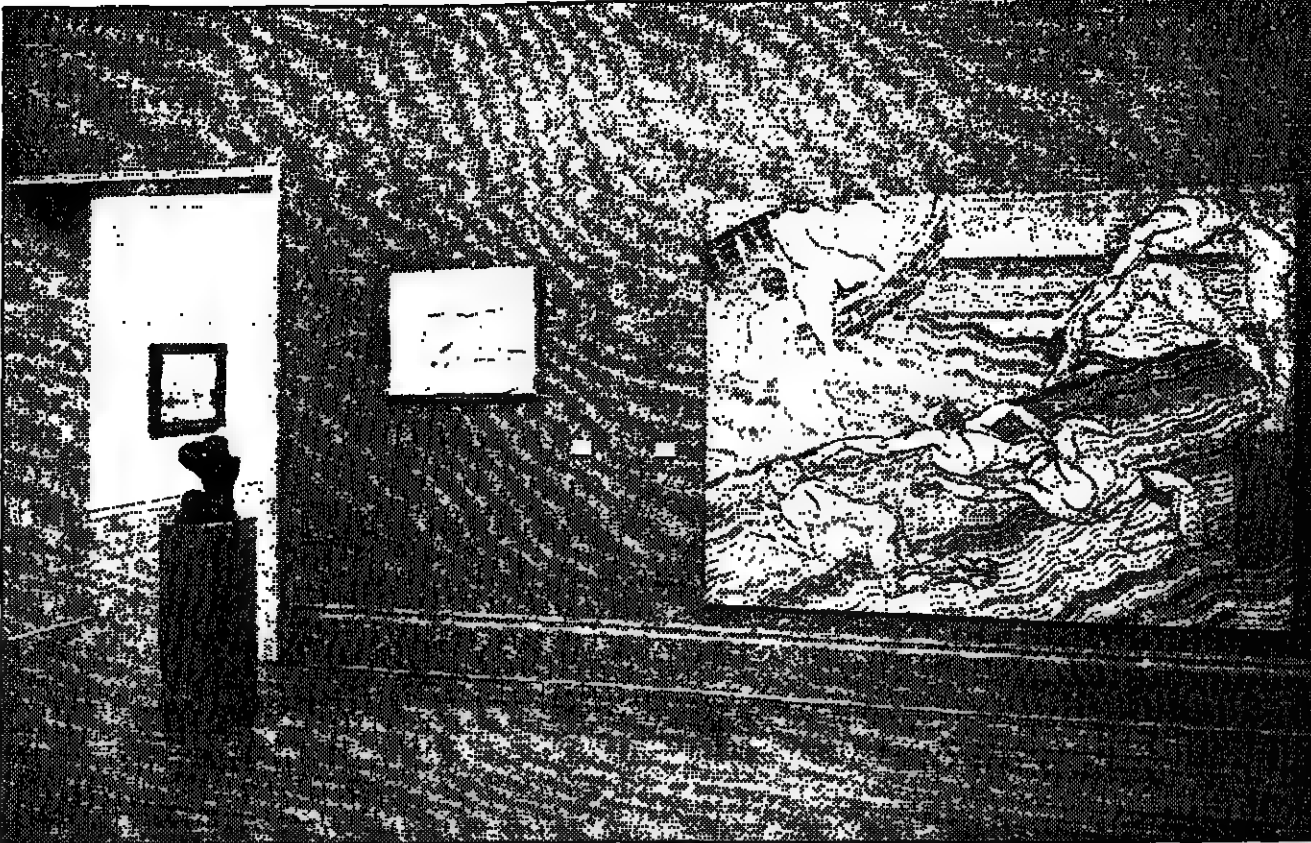
Meanwhile, up in the comparative tranquillity of the Pennines, something seems to have gone a bit awry with Wainwright and Robinson on their marathon *Coast to Coast Walk* for BBC 2. Last night they were heading from Shap Abbey to Keld, but already Wainwright has started to mutter wistfully about the happiness of the solitary walker.

If you must have a friend, he said, looking sharply at Eric Robson, choose one who is quiet. But the great thing about Robson is that he scarcely ever draws breath at all. He feels obliged to state even such evident truths as that he is going off down this little path here, to examine a nearby village, thereby graciously allowing Wainwright a solitary pull on his pipe.

As the walking series progresses in its own, dare I say pedestrian, way, I am acquiring a deep devotion to the two of them, especially at their most sharply contrasted. Wainwright is like some great woolly sheepdog, with Robson forever barking terror-like at his heels. Around the corner of every mountain or lake I keep expecting them to meet Wordsworth himself, or at the very least a person from Porlock. This week all they managed was the local county archaeologist, but I still live in hope.

# Total revolution at the Tate

Nicholas Serota, Director of the Tate Gallery, has completed a re-hanging of the entire collection. We asked Norman Rosenthal, Exhibitions Secretary at the Royal Academy, to cast a professional eye over the refurbished and rearranged displays, which will go on show to the public from this Thursday



A masterpiece never before displayed properly? Duncan Grant's "The Bathers", in the new Bloomsbury and Vorticism Room

Until he became Director of the Tate Gallery 16 months ago, Nicholas Serota was director of the Whitechapel Gallery. It was the only institution that regularly showed, over 10 years or so, contemporary art as it is understood in Western Europe and the United States. Since joining the Tate, he has effected a change so radical, and at the same time so life-enhancing, that not only will the institution never be the same again, but it may even affect the morale, ambition and most importantly, the look of museums throughout this country and — dare one suggest it — abroad as well.

There is a great deal of talk, much of it justified, about the appalling state of our museums: their old-fashioned infrastructure, problems of conservation, lack of funds, difficulty in purchasing new works of art, and whether or not to charge for admission. Grand, sometimes grandiose building schemes are devised, and some of them — the Burrell Collection in Glasgow, the Imperial War Museum in London, for example — are quite successful.

But then so many institutions, having made an enormous effort, too easily rest on their laurels, and gradually become musty again. What Serota demonstrates is that a museum need not be a static institution; rather, it ought to respond to change so that each visit contains a strong element of surprise.

The Tate Gallery over the last decade, in spite of excellent moments, usually in the form of temporary exhibitions, had become a dull place to visit. The galleries were ugly, full of works of art presented mostly in an undifferentiated way. It had become a collection to visit dutifully once in a lifetime.

Certainly, the previous director, Sir Alan Bowness, could point to significant achievements, most notably the building of the Clore Gallery, which houses the Tate's greatest single asset, the Turner Bequest. He initiated major building projects costing over £50 million. Some important exhibitions, took place: Douglas Cooper's *The Essential Cubism* above all, but also *The Pre-Raphaelites*, and the retrospective of Salvador Dali. Yet the collection itself remained a place for a handful of specialists and history of art students, while the general public trailed through the galleries, barely looking at the pictures.

For the past few weeks, the Tate has been largely closed to the public. In that time, a total transformation has taken

place. The museum has been stripped of false walls, to create a grand central axis perfect for showing great works of sculpture, from Rodin's "The Kiss", to outstanding modern works by, amongst others, Richard Long, Richard Deacon, Mario Merz and Ulrich Ruckriem. This walk through the Duveen Gallery makes an extraordinary promenade, demonstrating well the manifesto of the new presentation, *Past Present Future*.

At the far end of the Duveen Gallery, the visitor is asked to turn left and enter those galleries hung, for as long as I can remember, with those gloomy Late-

Victorian paintings and Sargent's society portraits. (Some of these are now beautifully shown elsewhere in the museum.) Now a selection of Elizabethan and Jacobean paintings is displayed with great dignity. The paintings are not there for the purpose of academic reference. They are being presented to us as autonomous, beautiful works of art.

A painting or sculpture, as anyone who has presented an exhibition knows, is a fragile object. Its meaning and visibility can be destroyed by its context. The colour of the wall matters, as does the shape, the size, the feeling of the gallery, the lighting,

even the state of the floor. Serota has attended to all these aspects, and the Tate is revealed as one of the most beautiful buildings for art in the world. After all, if temporary exhibitions, whether at the Royal Academy, the Tate Gallery or the Whitechapel, can be given this treatment, why should this not be done with a permanent collection?

The new arrangement dispels the idea that the Tate is a minor collection of 20th-century art. There are so many wonderful works that look their best in this presentation.

For instance, has Stanley Spencer ever

looked so marvellous? For years his masterpiece, "The Resurrection", hung next to the public conveniences or over the stairs, as though it were an embarrassment to the collection. Now it is in the centre of a gallery that reveals Spencer as a great artist, far more clearly, because more selectively, than at the Royal Academy retrospective in 1980.

Foreign visitors may well be amazed at the masterpieces of Vorticism and the Bloomsbury School that the Tate has owned for years but never displayed properly; they now look as if they might well be major masterpieces of European art. The great Rothko cycle is presented as a sacred room, and not in a passage as before. It now is a place where one might indeed wish to meditate about space and its relationship to existence.

Serota has turned the strange constitution of the Tate, as both the National Collection of British Art from the 16th century onwards, and also the National Collection of 20th-century art, to real advantage. Indeed, he has emphasized it provocatively. The view from Alan Ramsay's fine painting of "Baron Mansel and his Family" (1742) through a succession of great rooms, to Mondrian's "Composition in Red, Yellow, and Blue" (1942) is quite extraordinary.

It is a totally justified provocation. Those who only look at 18th or 19th-century paintings will, if their minds are at least a little bit open, gain much from this confrontation with the 20th century.

Many aspects of the Tate's collection have been omitted from the hang. There are no works by Sickert and the Camden Town School, nor are there any works by the artists of Pop Art, although in a few months the works on exhibition will be changed. There are new acquisitions on display, notably one of two new monumental paintings by Lucian Freud, which is shown with other works by Freud as well as those of Kossoff, Auerbach and Kline. A few loans have also been sought, for instance a splendid painting by Cy Twombly, borrowed from the Satchi Collection, is placed with two other important acquisitions by Bruce Marden and Anselm Kiefer, as well as three vitrines by Joseph Beuys — still-lives as poignant as any still-life by Morandi.

Serota's new hang has created the most fascinating parallels in the art of yesterday, today and tomorrow. I am glad that he is now director of the Tate.

## Soloist puts ensemble in shade

With the greatest respect to them, forget for the moment the London Classical Players. By far the most important thing about this concert was Steven Isserlis's performance of the Schumann Cello Concerto. Playing an instrument fitted with a conventional spike, but also, I think, with gut strings, he gave the most convincing reading I have heard of this often elusive piece.

His manner is deeply expressive, but he prefers to indulge the emotional ebbs and flows of the music rather than any inflated ego. More than that, however, enraptured he may have been, there was always an underlying consistency of pulse that one misses in so many performances by other eminent cellists.

Schumann, he seemed to be

### CONCERTS

Stephen Pettitt

LCP/Norrington  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

telling us, needs no inflating in order to be played well. All he needs is to be absorbed and reproduced. Isserlis's visual expressions betrayed just as much as his playing the fact that he was transported by this music.

Whether in the determination of the first movement, the unbridled joy of the finale, or the profound, poised tristesse of the slow movement, every sound was totally controlled yet also somehow spontaneous. The variety of his tone colours was immense, his technical security, even high in the register, well nigh absolute.

It was thus a pity that Roger Norrington was not always able to accompany him with the precision

he deserved: a pity, but no disaster, since Schumann himself thought of the orchestral role as fairly subservient.

As for the rest of the concert, part of the LCP's "Schumann and Rossini" series, we heard the statutory two Rossini overtures. That for *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* was graced by some well controlled natural horn playing, though *L'Italiana in Algeri* was marred by too many rough edges in the woodwind section.

Both pieces could have been given with considerably more sparkle. So familiar has Norrington's once-revolutionary approach become that it is possible now to recognize even his workaday performances. There was little that was arresting in the first movement and the outer sections of the Scherzo in Schubert's Sixth Symphony, though compensation was provided by a pleasingly curt, rustic slow movement and by a delicious opposition of the mercurial and the earthy in the finale.

## Mixed fortunes in an expressive programme

### CONCERT

Noël Goodwin

LSO/Tilson Thomas  
Barbican Hall

As a mentor for Prokofiev, Michael Tilson Thomas was broadly expansive when he led the London Symphony Orchestra through the Fifth Symphony in Sunday's programme, which was also broadcast on Radio 3. He personifies the "bodyman" school of conducting, his continuous weaving and bobbing back view, plus the occasional profile, seemingly concerned to suggest what he thinks the audience should be feeling.

This was perhaps less distracting to the sound of Prokofiev than it was in Mozart's "Haffner" Symphony at the start of the programme. Here most of his effort was expended on the first and last movements, which could almost be left to play themselves with an orchestra like this, whereas the

two middle movements, for want of more control, became meandering and overblown respectively.

Prokofiev's professed concern with "the grandeur of the human spirit" in his Fifth Symphony began to emerge through the luxuriant line and self-assured sonorities of the opening movement, and its melodic repetition and variation, though at the tempo chosen the climax was more suggestive of bathos than grandeur.

Associations with the *Cinderella* ballet which Prokofiev had then just finished were more the comedy of the stepsisters than the lyricism of the heroine. There was busy vitality but little enough charm in the sardonic scherzo, and a laboured tension in the Adagio, a movement that seemed to lose sight of its musical destination shortly before it gave way to the hectic finale.

Between these symphonies the conductor continued his self-appointed mission to broaden our acquaintance with musical America. Even so, the orchestral displacement needed for Leonard Bernstein's *Prelude, Fugue and Riffs*, with saxophones and drum-kit added to Andrew Morrison's clarinet and the LSO brass in passable "big band" imitation of the Woody Herman Herd for which it was first intended, was little justified by the music's contrivance.

Constrained, or possibly redeemed, by the time-limits of 78rpm records, this early specimen of "crossover" music is fossilized in a predetermined emotional response, whereas Aaron Copland's *Quiet City*, a whole decade older, still opens up a listener's imagination to evocative musical poetry. Christine Peadar (for anglicans) and Maurice Murphy (trumpet) touched in their lonely solos with poignant bravado, reflecting the contrast of individual timbres with that of the strings in the evening's most satisfying performance.

## Ingenious tale of decline and fall

### THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

Streetwalker  
Bush Theatre

A harlot's life was never a happy one. "The Harlot's Progress", Hogarth's series of six engravings, and the inspiration for this 90-minute musical, begins with her arrival in London, a trusting Yorkshire lass, innocent as a lamb.

A rake eyes her from a doorway; a treacherous old hawd offers protection. Soon she is installed as the young mistress of a Jewish merchant — possibly the earliest representation of a contemporary Jew in English art. Quickly things go wrong: she is arrested, languishes in Bridewell and dies of venereal disease.

Christina Jones and David Jon Buckley ingeniously fill in the gaps between these pictures and give body to the small gallery of characters; some of them Hogarth based on living people, including a notorious rapist who managed to escape scot-free through influence in high places. Influence and the lack of it is what kept Georgian society in a strait-jacket, and if there is a moral to this musical it does not differ from Hogarth's: "It's the rich what gets the pleasure, it's the poor what gets the pot."



Christina Jones: with a poignant sense of a small paradise lost

The brothel talk is no brighter than the usual stuff from Renaissance Jewish scenes, however, and the musical's opening and close, are strikingly successful

additions to the story of Mary Hackabout's poor, brief life. Jones and Buckley begin by imaging a hawk's-eye view of the Thames and London, a mixture of the natural and the contrived, expressed in shrewd language and well-chosen images.

Warren Wills's score, which he constructs from his keyboards in the corner, weaves the images into musical ideas hinting at sewerage or churches or the fearful streets. These move along a path of their own below the voices and at crucial moments are cut off, as abruptly as if the music had fallen over a cliff, and harsh a cello's chant takes over for a few key words.

At the other end of the evening, as Mary's soul soars upwards, the music for the four singers incorporates searing cries and rapid wordless sounds pulsing like wings above Leon Berger's warning bass. It must be fiendishly difficult to sing, but the sense of transfiguration is powerfully felt.

Christina Jones plays the title role with a poignant sense of a small paradise lost; it is a memorable detail of Francesca Joseph's production that shows her seeking customers by exposing and covering her breasts as mechanically as a prostitute.

The character of the meticulous Jew (Martyn Hoydon), built up from scanty clues, provides a fascinating eye-opener on what one might call the prophylactic interface between a Jew and a Christian.

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PARIS FASHION by Liz Smith

# No business like haute business

Against all odds, haute couture is booming in Paris as the 1990 collections get under way — and there is big money at stake

Christian Lacroix whips up a tank-topped swimsuit from a few centimetres of hand-painted and embroidered Lycra, and knots around it a voluminous overskirt of chartrreuse, orange and pink organza. That's haute couture in 1990.

It takes 350 hours of painstaking craftsmanship in the Dior workrooms to turn a whim of designer Gianfranco Ferré and a mile of lace, tulle, organza and taffeta into a crystal-beaded ball gown. At a cost of £25,000, there is a market of fewer than 300 potential customers in the entire world for this extravagance. And that's haute couture, too.

As the top couturiers parade their new lines in Paris this week, the wonder is that in

1990 the world of haute couture not only still exists, but is thriving. Despite a dwindling clientele, and the fact that it never pays its way, the funds keep flowing in for the survival of fashion's greatest showpiece. The leading fashion tycoon is Bernard Arnault, whose LVMH empire includes Dior, Lacroix and Givenchy. Lanvin, the oldest family-owned couture house, founded in 1889, was taken over by the Midland Bank last year and is currently being shaken up — its new

designer, Claude Montana, makes his debut as a couturier this evening. Last year Yves Saint Laurent was launched on the Paris stock market. The French have sewn up the top end of the fashion industry, and Italy's design stars have come to share the spotlight. Ferré is established as the new couturier at Dior. Valentino shows his *alta moda* line in Paris tomorrow, and Versace kicked off the entire schedule of couture shows at the Ritz with his Atelier line, a parade of sexy

numbers that are fringed, bejewelled and brief.

The short, short skirt has been emphatically endorsed by Lacroix, Scherrer, Dior and Chanel. The new silhouette is the fingertip-length tunic, revealing an inch or two of skirt underneath. Jackets are skintight and long, worn over a filmy slip of fabric that passes for a skirt. The neat bolero is seen as a backdrop for the braiding, embroidery and jewellery that is everywhere.

Ferré, whose first couture collection for Dior, shown last July, won him the *Dé d'Or*, Paris fashion's Golden Thimble award, shares with the legendary Christian Dior a love of grey. He uses every shade from palest pearl to charcoal for his strict suits and coat-dresses, adding his signature flourishes of white piqué collar and deep cuffs, or a flyaway organza bow and scarf.

Ferré always puts on a polished display of luxurious layering of texture and colour. While his own-label collection has a contemporary ease, his Dior line lacks a modern feel. The day clothes lack sassiness, but there are delicious evening confections encrusted with lace in shades of mauve and lilac.

Jean-Louis Scherrer, inspired by his trip to India in December, has copied the ceilings in colourful embroidery, and created ruffled tunics, sand-draped skirts and dresses.

For Chanel, which is shown today, Lagerfeld reinvents the classic tweed jacket, which in 1990 is buttoned over a soft, flared skirt in georgette or chiffon. Necklines are scooped, shoulders are softly rounded, and for summer a new raffia braid defines the edges. His easy cardigan jackets, worn over a soft jumpsuit-dress, are as much in the relaxed style pioneered by Coco Chanel in the Twenties as they are in the sporty mood of the 1990s.



Right: Classic Chanel suit updated for 1990 in navy wool crêpe, edged all round with black and white raffia and chenille braid, with white straw-brimmed hat, Karl Lagerfeld for Chanel

Right: Lacroix Scherrer, the couturier's daughter, in short jacket in rough natural linen, embroidered with white and gold flowers, with sarong skirt in white crêpe, Jean-Louis Scherrer

Above: Red crêpe jacket with navy and white striped, cropped trousers, and wide-brimmed, lacquered gold straw hat, Christian Lacroix

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DENZIL MICHELANE



Above left: Jewelled halter top with charcoal silk trousers, Atelier Versace. Right: Coat-dress in black and grey striped silk, with white organza collar and bow, Gianfranco Ferré for Christian Dior

## PARIS HOTLINE

### Softer line at Lanvin

The 100-year-old couture house of Lanvin, whose most sensational creation to date has been its top-selling scent, *Arpège*, launched in 1927, re-enters the competitive world of high fashion today when it unveils the first couture line to be created by Claude Montana.

Montana, who is known for his structured lines and racy leathers, promises a softer line, with diaphanous layers of colour. Unlike Lagerfeld's brilliant re-working of Coco Chanel's own distinctive



Flying high: Claude Montana

### Glittering prize

The British jewellery designer Jane Allen is among the winners of this year's *Diamonds International Awards 1990*, with a £50,000 necklace starring 210 brilliant-cut diamonds set in three strands of platinum, linked to a moulded, yellow-gold ring.

The presentation tonight in Paris marks a turning point in a career that began in exactly the same way, when Allen won the *Diamonds award* in 1971 while still at the Central School of Art in London. Having established her name



Going for gold: Jane Allen

in the 1970s with a strong, clean, modern style, Allen spent six years in the Middle East with her husband, and has returned with her four children to re-establish a

Sylvie Guillem changed from her black leotard into a strapless, back-dipping, lace and pink silk number from Christian Lacroix's latest couture collection for the curtain call at the end of the song and dance review that celebrated

the launch of Lacroix's new scent, *C'est la Vie*. The sophisticated new scent, a heady cocktail of orange blossom and Provencal flowers with vanilla, sandalwood and tonka bean, will be on sale in the UK in April.

London base. She trained in sculpture first at Horsey, and has happily moved from small, personal pieces to designing jewellery on a grander scale.

The award-winning collection by the 27 winners from 13 countries — nine from Japan — will be exhibited in Harrods in March as part of its "To the End of the Earth" promotion.

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Inspired by medieval mille-fleurs capes, the rabbit and hutch are in soft biscuit and oatmeal shades; the monkey and squirrel in tans and rus; and the falcon and pheasant are a combination of these colours with bottle green, raspberry and yellows as well. The flowers, all old English varieties which would have grown wild in the middle ages, are in subdued tones of ochre, blue, strawberry, off-white, dappled moss and sage green. The dark background is a mixture of indigo and verdian, and the overall effect of these colours is as you would expect in a medieval tapestry. Surrounding the carpet is a wonderfully rich border of fruit, berries, leaves, nuts and patterned geometric motifs.

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## HORIZONS

# In the protection business

A growing patent industry in Britain is opening new career doors. Neil Harris looks at this low-profile profession

**H**ave you a scientific bent? Do you enjoy analysing problems logically? Can you write concise, unambiguous prose? If the answer is yes, a career as a patent agent may be for you.

Patent agents are in business to protect the intellectual property of companies and individuals from exploitation by others. The property may be an invention, an industrial design, trade mark or copyright. While patents protect inventions, a distinctive design can also be registered with the Government's designs registry, and brand names such as Anchor butter or Kellogg's cornflakes are protected by registering them as trade marks.

The patent agent Abel and Imray says: "We are looking for candidates who have the potential to handle clients of widely differing status, ranging from company chairmen to laboratory assistants. Administrative ability would be an asset."

Patent agents have the specialist skills and knowledge to secure and defend patent rights for their clients' ideas. It is a job with an international dimension - you could be securing a European patent for a Japanese company

one day and defending a British inventor's rights in another country the next.

There are 1,250 patent agents practising in the UK and 5,000 in Western Europe. About 60 per cent work in private practice for high street partnerships. The rest are employed by large companies that have their own patent departments.

Inventions can be protected for up to 20 years and industrial designs for up to 15. The rights they give allow inventors to take advantage for a time of a monopoly market in return for making a public disclosure of their invention.

Michael Ralph, deputy secretary of the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents, says the profession is growing. When the European Patent Office opened there were fears that less work would come the way of UK patent agents, but the British and Germans are now doing most of the patent work in Europe. Recruitment, which has been running at around 45 trainees a year for most of the past decade, has doubled recently.

The Copyright, Design and Patents Act was recently revised. One of the changes in the law is the



Patently clear: "You have to be able to grasp the ideas and express them concisely," Jon Gowshall says

deregulation of patent agents. Anyone can now submit a patent to the British Patent Office, not just qualified patent agents. But the European Patent Office, in Munich, deals only with qualified European patent attorneys.

Jon Gowshall, a qualified patent agent and European patent attorney, says: "If something is wrong with a patent you may not find out

for several years, and then it's too late. So I don't expect that many inventors or companies will want to have their patents written by unqualified people."

Although a degree in science or engineering is not necessary, almost all trainees have such a qualification. UK and overseas patent laws and procedures are among the subjects studied by

trainees for the patent agents' examinations. Some trainees are seconded by their firms to Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, for a course on intellectual property. Others attend tutorials and seminars run by their professional body. Qualified solicitors are exempt from the initial exams. Trainees usually take their final exam to become a

qualified patent agent after three years' experience.

"We are putting forward proposals for a new modular system so that trainees will be able to take individual parts of our examinations when they want to," Ralph says. "We are also reducing the training experience requirement before anyone can qualify from three years to two."

Study is not complete even after membership of the Chartered Institute of Patent Engineers is attained. Trainees are usually expected to go on to become European patent attorneys by successfully completing the examinations of the European Patent Institute. "This is an entirely different exam to ours, but successful candidates gain exemption from our institute's drafting paper," Ralph says. "The patent drafting process is now the same for everyone in Europe."

What of the prospects? Many partnerships of patent agents have specialist departments dealing in such areas as mechanical and electrical patents, chemical or biological inventions, trade marks or design copyright. After three or four years of general training, recruits often specialise in one of these fields and may, some years later, have the opportunity to become a partner.

As for salaries, patent agents are coy about mentioning figures. I was told: "It might start at a very average rate but after two or three years it's much better than you would receive in most of the other professions."

## WHERE TO START

Jon Gowshall graduated as a biochemist, but switched to patent work in Liverpool. "To begin with I worked as a trainee under the close supervision of a partner, and everything I did was checked," he says. "I drafted patent applications and replied to letters from the Patent Office. The partner would go through what I had done and give me advice."

"After 18 months I moved to a 12-partner firm in London where I was dealing with large companies, patent agents from overseas and individual inventors. As a biochemist I naturally assist with any specialist work concerned with inventions in biochemistry, but I have also worked on innovations in other fields - designs, copyright and other intellectual property."

"We get quite a lot of work from foreign patent agents, who send us patent applications which they want us to file at the UK or European Patent Offices. We prepare the specifications and forms and send them to the Patent Office, which responds by setting out objections. You have to be able to grasp the ideas, analyse them logically, express them concisely and overcome the objections."

"I have progressed through experience, private study and passing the exams to become a qualified patent agent. I recently qualified as a European patent attorney, for which it is useful to understand texts in French and German, but it's not necessary to be bi-lingual. To pass the exams, you have to gain a broad range of experience. The syllabus and exams are set by the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents. Trainees work their way through questions from earlier years and take a mark and discuss them."

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##### ACTION

It would be preferable if you have or are studying for a training/education qualification. Ring Tony McCallum, Care Services Manager or Shane Thomson, Personnel and Support Services Manager, on Bracknell (0344) 422722 for informal enquiries and an application package. Alternatively write to Church Hill House Hospital, Reeds Hill, Easthampstead, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 4EP.

##### CLOSING DATE

February 1, 1990.

### ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY (CHIEF OFFICER)

The Royal Institute, founded in 1886, is an active educational, standard-setting and examining body which, as an independent organisation, plays a pioneering role in furthering health and hygiene.

The present Secretary will be retiring at the end of August and applications are invited, from suitably qualified and experienced persons in sympathy with the aims of the Royal Institute, to fill this key administrative post from September next.

The person appointed will be responsible to Council for the management of staff and properties and for activities which include organisation of meetings, courses and examinations, seminars and conferences, as well as liaison with related organisations. Duties also include financial management under the direction of the Finance Committee and the Council.

An annual salary of not less than £28,000 will be offered and pension arrangements will be negotiated. Costs of commuting up to £1,000 per annum will be reimbursed. Job Description and further particulars from:

The Secretary  
Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene  
28 Portland Place  
London W1N 4DE

Applications to be received by: 17 February 1990

Anticipated interview date: 16 March 1990

### DERBYSHIRE FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE NEW DIRECTIONS, NEW CHALLENGES!

#### Management Accountant

SALARY RANGE £26K + PERFORMANCE BONUS + CAR ALLOWANCES

We are a forward working Health Authority seeking a qualified accountant who will become our Director of Finance and Corporate Services.

Government reforms require the NHS to embrace business and market philosophies whilst at the same time ensuring quality in comprehensive service delivery.

You should possess drive, commitment and ability to motivate and develop change. You will be part of an executive team responsible to the General Manager with freedom to be innovative and control substantial financial resources.

Applicants from both public and private sector welcome. Curriculum vitae to be submitted by Monday, 29 January 1990, further details can be obtained from Rachael Turner Tel: (0332) 290445, Derbyshire Family Practitioner Committee, Derwent Court, Stuart Street, Derby DE1 2FZ.

### UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

#### Careers and Appointments Officer

The Careers and Appointments Service provides a range of facilities to enable students of the University to make a sound career choice and gives practical assistance in obtaining employment or further study.

The person appointed will be a graduate, preferably in a scientific subject with a record of successful experience in industry, commerce or public service. Relevant qualifications and/or work experience would be an asset, but of overriding importance will be a demonstrable interest in providing careers guidance to students. Training will be provided.

Initial responsibilities will be for students drawn from the Faculty of Science.

Initial salary on Grade 2 of the scale for Senior Administrative Staff (£12,876 - £16,665 per annum). Applications, by cv, with the names of three referees, should be received not later than 16 February 1990, by The Director of Staffing Services (AS), The University, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Quote ref. RV/586/TIM

An Equal Opportunity Employer

### The Wellcome Trust Grants Officer

Due to expansion, The Wellcome Trust, Britain's largest charity devoted to general medical research, requires a Grants Officer to assist in the administration of the Trust's research programme.

Duties will include the processing of grant applications, drafting correspondence and the maintenance of financial statistics and budgets. The ideal candidate will probably be a graduate with some administrative experience, ideally in the medical or academic sphere.

Salary will be on a rising scale from £14,445-£17,869 a.a. A non-contributory pension scheme and 23 days' annual leave are among the excellent benefits.

Written applications, including a full CV and the names of two referees, should be sent to Miss Deirdre Carty, The Wellcome Trust, 1 Park Square West, London NW1 4LI, by 2nd February.

### ESSEX FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE

This innovative and forward looking Health Authority is in the forefront of implementing change in the management of the National Health Service. It is responsible for the planning and management of Family Practitioner Services for over 1.4 million people in the rapidly expanding County of Essex.

The introduction of general management into FPCs has led to the creation of two Assistant General Manager posts. These two posts will form part of the Authority's Management Board.

#### ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER - FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Salary: £30,960 p.a. plus performance related pay.

The postholder will be responsible for the efficient management of the Authority's financial and administrative systems. These will include the information technology, registration and personnel functions. The role will encompass the design, implementation and co-ordination of systems and procedures, in order to provide information to make strategic and operational decisions in a fast moving dynamic environment. The postholder will have responsibility for a staff of 75 and will therefore need to manage and direct all related human resource issues.

This is a front line role and embraces the whole range of the Authority's activities and thus requires that the candidate can demonstrate experience in such a role, where adaptability and a team approach are key aspects. Professional qualification in a management or financial discipline is desirable, but the emphasis is on practical experience.

#### ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER - PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Salary: £30,960 p.a. plus performance related pay.

The postholder will be responsible for ensuring that the policies of the Authority in regard to planning and delivery of services are achieved. Corporate philosophy focuses on the development of a devolved organisation which is responsive to local needs and manages services close to the point of delivery. The establishment of 5 local offices across the County is therefore a priority. The successful co-ordination and management of the Area Managers will be a key component of the job. Much of the operational planning will be carried out by the Area Managers but the postholder will be responsible for the Authority's strategic planning. The postholder will also need to work closely with professional advisors in devising quality initiatives across the Family Practitioner Services.

An information pack is available from Helen Cox at Essex Family Practitioner Committee, Carnarvon House, Carnarvon Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 6QD, telephone 0255 221232 ext. 250. For an informal discussion please contact the General Manager, Graham Butland, on ext. 221.

Closing date for applications is 9 February and interviews will be held during the period 28 February - 2 March.

### barnet FINANCIAL SERVICES

#### PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT

##### Social Services

£20,544-£25,384 pa inc.

LW and Market Factor Pay Supplement-lease car also available.

Barnet is changing its style and you can contribute to the new customer orientated approach as a section head, working closely with service directorates, providing budgeting, accounting and financial advisory services for Social Services and Grants Committees. Each section is developing the improved provision of cost centre management information using LAIFS and micro-computers.

You must be CIPFA qualified with some years post qualification experience and be able to demonstrate initiative, leadership and staff management abilities for a section of eight professional and clerical staff.

Ref: 615H/91. Application forms available from the Recruitment Office, London Borough of Barnet, 16/17 Sentinel Square, Brent Street, Hendon NW4 2EN. 81E Tel: 01-202 8282 ext 2372 (01-202 6602 outside office hours).

AN AUTHORITY COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

LONDON BOROUGH OF barnet

### barnet FINANCIAL SERVICES

#### Audit and Financial Consultancy Division

#### FINANCE LIAISON OFFICER

##### (Audit)

£12,579-£16,722 pa inc.

+ essential car users allowance

Interested in Education and LMS? Interested in Audit?

Then why not join our Audit and Financial Consultancy team which is committed to providing a first class service to its customers. You will be responsible for implementing a new front line audit brought about by the Education Reform Act. Preference will be given to candidates with an education or finance background.

Based in modern offices in Hendon, our benefits include flexible working hours, staff restaurant, generous leave entitlement and interest free car loans or subsidised leased car for essential users. Ref: 616C/90.

For information on this post please telephone 01-202 8282 and talk to Brian Broad on ext 2322 or Barry Austin on ext 2314.

Application forms available from the Recruitment Office, London Borough of Barnet, 16/17 Sentinel Square, Brent Street, Hendon NW4 2EN. Tel: 01-202 8282 ext 2372 (01-202 6602 outside office hours).

AN AUTHORITY COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

LONDON BOROUGH OF barnet



**More Health and Beauty on Page 21**



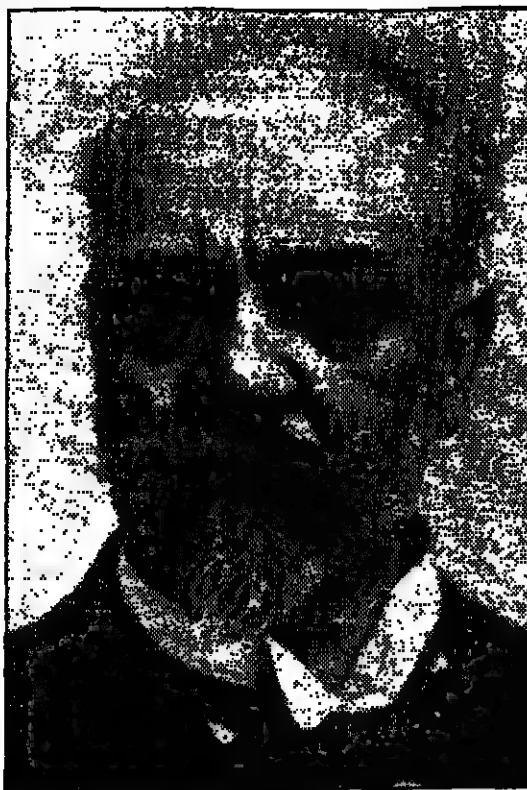
## INFORMATION SERVICE

## Essentially bohemian



Main components: Bohuslav Martinů (left) and Antonín Dvořák, in Wigmore Hall's Bohemian Festival

Tonight the Chilingirian Quartet opens a series of Wigmore Hall concerts which run until July. They make up the Bohemian Festival and will concentrate on chamber music by Dvořák, Suk and Martinů, the centenary of whose birth falls this year. Largely because he is such a prolific composer, it has been hard to get Martinů's achievement into focus. His String Quartet No 5 will be heard from the Chilingirian Quartet, but some of his piano music will be performed by Margaret Fingerhut tomorrow and by William Howard next month. His Piano Quartet and Violin Sonata No 2 will be heard on other occasions. This last will be played by Josef Suk, who is the



Main components: Bohuslav Martinů (left) and Antonín Dvořák, in Wigmore Hall's Bohemian Festival

grandson of the composer Josef Suk, who in turn was Dvořák's pupil and son-in-law. Dvořák wrote a lot of chamber music and works by him are included in many of these concerts, starting this evening with the fine, but not well-known, Quartet Op 51. Stylistically, Josef Suk — the composer — is somewhere between the romantic Dvořák and mildly modernist Martinů, and his warmly engaging music is performed here all too rarely. It will be a pleasure to hear his Spring pieces from Margaret Fingerhut tomorrow and several other works later in the series. Tonight, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £4-27. Max Harrison

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

**BOOKING KEY**  
★ Seats available  
★ Returns only  
(\*) Access for disabled

## THEATRE LONDON

★ **LETICIA AND LOVAGE**: Last chance to see Peter Schaffer's long-running comedy in which two unlikely partners wage economic war against the modern world. Ends Saturday.

Glouce Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 3867). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **LONDON ASSURANCE**: Paul Eddington in an amusing ageing bode, with Angela Thorne in otherwise so-so production from Chichester. Theatre Royal, Haymarket SW1 (01-930 9832). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **A LIFE IN THE THEATRE**: Dorothea Elliott and Samuel West in Mamet's study of an old actor and his ambitious junior: the players stronger than the play. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-636 2660). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **MA RAINY'S BLACK BOTTOM**: Carol Woods as the legendary blues singer in August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning about black musicians in white Hollywood. National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-828 2252). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **THE PELICAN**: Second in the theatre's occasional series of one-man plays: the chamber play: this one a melodrama of a pious mother who. Gate Theatre, Pimlico SW1 (01-229 0708). Mon-Sat 8-8.45pm, £5.

★ **WHALES**: Mapplethorpe, June Watson, Tony Wilson, Emil Wolk lead a large cast playing whales, humpbacks and heroes in David Holford's new play for children. National Theatre (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (01-828 2252). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **CATS**: The musical. Theatre Royal, Haymarket SW1 (01-930 9832). Tue, Thurs, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £7.50-215. (P)

★ **THE ELPHINSTONE**: The importance of Being Ernest: Ian Mollins's production of our wisest comedy, with Josephine Trewin mouthing horror at the last. Haymarket Theatre, Wote Street (0256 465568). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 5-7.30pm, £4. (P)

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## EARTH GIRLS ARE EASY (PG)

A spaceship eager for female delights crashes in Los Angeles: cue for a wild, rude, modish musical comedy from Absolute Beginners: director Julien Temple. With George Davis, Jeff Goldblum (100 mins).

Canon Oxford Street (01-630 0810). Progs 1.00, 3.35, 6.00, 8.35.

★ **FELLOW TRAVELLER** (15): Michael Eaton's intriguing drama about the blacklisted era, directed by Philip Saville, with Hart Bochner and Ron Silver as Hollywood radicals variously coping with the McCarthy nightmare (85 mins).

Metro (01-437 0757). Progs 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45.

★ **JESUS OF MONTREAL** (15): An updated version of a Passion Play causes controversy in Montreal. Strained theatrical fireworks from Denys Arcand, Canadian director of *The Dictionary of the Devil* (120 mins).

Lumiere (01-836 0891). Film at 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **SCENES FROM THE CLASS** (15): Satirical fun and games with a soft centre from director-satirist Paul Bartel with Jacqueline Bisset as an actress attempting a comeback (104 mins).

Canon Fulham Road (01-370 2630). Progs 2.00, 4.00, 6.00, 8.00.

★ **WELCOME HOME** (15): Unduly melodramatic tale of a Vietnam veteran, presumed dead, who returns home to upset the apple cart. With Kris Kristofferson and John Williams; the last film of director Franklin Schaffner (92 mins).

Odeon Haysquare (01-636 7867). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **SISTERS** (15): Engaging romantic comedy with fairy tale trimmings, with Patrick Dempsey as a descendant American student spending Christmas with an eccentric, chaotic family. Director by Michael Hoffman; with Jennifer Connolly (94 mins).

Canon Fulham Road (01-370 2630). Progs 1.40, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30.

★ **SONNICHEN** (15): Richard Strauss's *Sonata Op 6*, Dvořák's *Rondo Op 94* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto* (100 mins).

Canon Fulham Road (01-370 2630). Progs 1.40, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30.

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Canon Fulham Road (01-370 2630). Progs 1.40, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30.

★ **PAITA PERFORMANCES**: Carlos Pelta conducts the RPO in Rossini's *William Tell Overture*, Grieg's *Piano Concerto* (100 mins).

Canon Fulham Road (01-370 2630). Progs 1.40, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30.

★ **TUESDAY TALKS**: The Talkie Scholastic sing Richard's Requiem and

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## ROCK

★ **ERIC CLAPTON**: The old man of English blues-rock guitar on hot form by all accounts.

Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-592 8212). 7.30pm, £13.50-215.50, for 13 more nights.

★ **THE ALABAMA**: Wales's biggest rock export continues to celebrate a romantic life of its Celtic heritage, but the new single, "Love Don't Come Easy", released yesterday, sounds tailor-made for the American market.

Newcastle City Hall, Northumberland Road (01-261 2005). 7.30pm, £7-28.

★ **SIMPLY RED**: Mick Hucknall's blue-eyed soul exports.

Decca, Birmingham (021 780 4155). 7.30pm, £12-24, for three nights.

★ **DEACON BLUE**: Intimate gig for the Scottish popsters seen last December at Wembley Arena.

Mean Fiddlers, 28 Harley Street High Street, London NW1 (01-861 5495). 8pm, £5.

★ **PAUL McCARTNEY**: A dazzling show which celebrates the Beatles' heritage as much as it showcases last year's *Flowers in the Dirt* album.

Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Wembley (01-900 1234). 7.30pm, £15.50, also tomorrow and Fri.

★ **ANN HAMPTON CALLAWAY**: No relation to Lionel Hampton or Cab Calloway, the New York pop-jazz singer comes highly recommended by George Shearing.

Pizza On The Park, 11 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (01-235 5555). 11.15pm, £10, also Sat only, £7. Unit Feb 5.

★ **HUMPHREY LYTTELTON**: The trumpet's band includes Peter Stan and saxophonist Alan Barnes.

Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Road, London SW13 (01-846 5241). 8.30pm, £4.

★ **TOMMY SMITH**: Still absorbing styles, the acoustic, blues-trained saxophonist is currently under the influence of Jan Garbarek.

Blackheath Concert Hall, 23 Lee Road, London SE13 (01-463 0100). 8pm, £12.

★ **JOHN MARTIN** (1928-1984): Paintings and prints by the popular artist who painted apocalyptic scenes such as *The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah*, featuring hundreds of tiny figures and dramatic lighting.

Abbot Hall Gallery, Kentish, Camden (0256 722464). Mon-Fri 10.30am-5pm, Sat-Sun 10.30am-5pm, £2. Unit Feb 15.

★ **ARNDT GOREY** (1904-1984): A survey of a key abstract painter in the development of American art.

Whitechapel Art Gallery, Whitechapel High Street, London E1 (01-577 0107). Sat-Sun 11am-5pm, £2, Unit March 25.

★ **JUDITH CORNELL**: New works in copper and cast iron by a sculptor of forms derived from floral and organic origins.

Oriel Gallery, The Friary, Cardiff (0222 304844). 7.30pm, £2-11.50.

★ **1989 YOUNG ILLUSTRATORS EXHIBITION**: The best entries and prizewinners in the annual competition.

Newcastle Polytechnic Gallery, Sandford Road, Newcastle (0191 255 8424). Mon-Thurs 10am-5pm, Fri-Sat 10am-4pm, free, Unit Feb 24.

## TALKS

★ **WAR ARTISTS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR**: Lecture by Michael Moody, Curator, Department of Art, Imperial War Museum.

Highgate Library, 11 South Grove, Highgate, London N6 (01-340 3343). 8.15pm, £1 (free to members).

★ **QUEEN ANNE AND THE MARLBOROUGH**: Lecture by John Cooper, National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-630 1552). 1.10pm, free.

★ **THE REAL LONDON EASTENDERS**: TEAL JEWELL QUARTER: Meet the stars, 11am, £3.50 (01-688 4019).

★ **THE JACK THE RIPPER MURDER**



## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear  
and Gillian MaxeyBreaking  
headlines  
on the air

Peter Waymark

● Tonight's episode of *Making News* (TV, 9.00pm) is rather old news since its central story is about Romanian refugees escaping to Hungary from President Ceausescu and his secret police. One of the dangers of tearing stories from the headlines is that the writer Keith Dewhurst, any more than the rest of us, could have foreseen the abrupt demise of the Ceausescu regime. The moral for *Making News* may be to keep away from Eastern Europe for a while. First aired as a pilot last year and now promoted to a series, the show is still feeling its way. It



Covering the news: Tony Omba (left) and Ian Hensdale in Budapest (TV, 9.00pm)

employs the well-tried format of focusing on a group of professionals—in this case journalists working for a television news company—and overlapping several story-lines. As in similarly constructed series (*Casualty*, *The Bill*), the dramatic conflicts arise both from exploits in the field and within an organization with a strict hierarchy. It is a useful way of varying the texture, moving from the grim to the flippant, and avoiding the limitations imposed by a central character. *This Making News* can switch from the big story on Romania to trivia such as a milkman driving his float into the river and an emu at large on the M4 and change the spotlight as plot dictates from station boss to star reporters and callow beginners. The potential is clearly there but on the evidence so far the series is some way short of achieving the pace and polish of *The Bill*, another product of Thames Television and available for comparison tonight.

● Just half an hour earlier, *After Henry* (TV, 8.30pm) is back for a fourth series. Simon Brett's gentle sitcom about the widow, the noisy mother and the errant daughter started on radio and worked so well there that a transfer to television seemed unnecessary. But after a brief period of settling in on the part of both the production and the viewer it has worked splendidly. Brett's scripts are low-key and economical on incident but suffused with a sharp appreciation of character which enabled him to sidestep the clichés of the two mother-daughter relationships. The catalyst for tonight's up-to-standard episode is Claire's new boyfriend, an impeccably courteous and crushingly dull dentist. Flattery gets him everywhere with the imperious Eleanor (Joan Sanderson), while Sarah (Prunella Scales) is not so sure.

## BBC

6.00 *Coffee*.  
6.30 *95C* Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchall and Kirsty Wark. Includes regular news headlines, business and financial reports, sports bulletins, regional news, weather and travel information, and a review of the morning's top stories. Presented by Paul Cullen. 12.55 Regional news and weather.

9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Viewers comment on yesterday's television. Presented by Jayne Irving.

9.30 *Kitty*. Robert Kilroy-Gibbs chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.

10.00 News and weather followed by *Going for Gold* (r).

10.25 Children's BBC, presented by Simon Pegg, begins with *Playdays* (r) 10.30 *Peppercorn* (r) 10.45 *Five to Eleven*. Ian Cuthbertson with a reading.

11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. With Eamonn Holmes and Jayne Irving.

12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. Johnnie Lee Spiller and Andy Craig in today's edition of the magazine series is *Fiddle* Benjamin with another report on *The People of Penarth* 12.55 Regional news and weather.

1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather.

1.30 *Neighbours*. Henry is devastated when Scott tells him that Brennon saw him kissing Melanie. (Contex)

1.55 *Five*. *Heaven* (1985) starring John Schneider and Catherine Hicks. Romantic comedy about two single people who move in as neighbours in an apartment block and discover that having been recently separated from their partners isn't the only thing they have in common. Directed by Noel Black.

3.00 *Green* Clive with Nick Mercer and Stella Gooder. 4.15 *Holly* (r) 4.15 *Jackanory*. Peter Robinson with part two of *Lewis Carroll's Alice Through the Looking Glass* 4.25 *The New York* 4.30 *News* 4.35 *News*. Beverly Wood and Mark Sellar are joined by the *Yacht Club* and special guest *Sinatra*.

5.00 *Newsround* 5.10 *Grange Hill*. Episode seven of the 20-part series (Contex).

5.35 *News* (r). (Contex).

6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Seaton and Anne Ford. Weather.

6.30 *Newsround* South East.

7.00 *Holiday* 90. John Parnham visits Benidorm. *Katharine* takes a break in a Pamflet's cottage; and Anne Gregg and Eamonn Holmes have more clues to the mystery postcard competition (Contex).

7.30 *Evening News*. Michelle has an unexpected visitor. (Contex).

8.00 *Portage*. Poetic Justice. A new old-time turns out to be an old acquaintance, but Fletcher is suspicious when the newcomer is treated with old-gloves by the others. Starring Ronnie Barker and Maurice Denham (r). (Contex).

8.30 *A Question of Sport*. David Coleman is joined by team captain Bill Beaumont and his captain and this week's guests Sally Gunnell, Alex McLeish, John Gallagher and Thierry Boutsen. (Contex).

9.00 *Mine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather.

9.30 *A Series of Gents*. Episode two of Andrew Newman's seven-part drama series. Felix and Sally get more passionately entwined, but find that coming up their affair has led them into deeper waters of lies and deceit with the people around them. (Contex).

10.30 *Film* 90 with Barry Norman. Barry reviews Michael Douglas's latest film, *Black Rain*, in which he is a detective assigned to track down a ruthless Japanese killer, plus a look at *Casualties of War*, based on the true story of a Vietnam platoon leader (Sean Penn) and the main (Michael F. Fox) who decides to stand up to his excessive use of violence and institutional cover-up. Tom Brook reports from New York on women working in the film industry.

10.55 *Hemlock*. In the light of such television apoplexy as *Children in Need* and *Comic Relief*, Anna Ford is joined by this week's guests and a studio audience to discuss charity fund-raising on television.

11.45 *Weather*.

## BBC2

6.00 TV-am begins with News and Good Morning Britain, introduced by Linda Mitchell and, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After Nine includes ideas on revitalizing your wardrobe.

8.55 *Lucky Ladders*. Word association game 9.55 *Thames News* and weather.

10.00 *The Place*. . . . Mike Scott chairs a topical discussion.

10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes financial advice, the answers to readers' problems and David Bony in the megapower and heard. With regional news at 10.55 and national news at 11.05 followed by national weather.

12.10 *News and Weather*. For the young 12.30 *Home and Away*. Alison Armstrong on a conversation between Sunday's newswatch, Frank and Bobby, and discovers the identity of Bobby's mother.

1.00 *News at One* with John Suchet. Weather 1.30 *Thames News* and weather 1.50 *Santa Barbara*.

2.00 *TV Weekday*. Anne Diamond goes behind the scenes of popular TV and Channel 4 programmes.

2.30 *Talk the High Road*. Eric feels rather uncomfortable when he bumps into an old friend and a fierce pole causes considerable damage in Glandoroch.

3.00 *Give Us a Clue*. Celebrity chessmen presented by Michael Aspin. This afternoon's *Lord* Blair and Liza Goodard are joined by Sandra Dickinson, Christopher Biggins, Peter Sars, Kate Robbins, and Norman Macdonald and Anna Dawson 3.25 *Thames News* and weather 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. Australian medical drama series.

4.00 *Pinocchio* 4.15 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 4.25 *T-Bag* and the *Peas of Wisdom* starring Georgia Hale. This week, Sally's search for the missing parent takes her back to 1916-century England 4.40 *Contex* Outside.

5.10 *Blockbusters*. 5.40 *News with Sue Carpenter*. Weather.

6.00 *News and Weather* (r).

6.30 *Thames News* followed by *Crimestoppers*.

6.50 *Thames News*. The first of three programmes examining past and present. This afternoon's *Lord* Blair and Liza Goodard are joined by Sandra Dickinson, Christopher Biggins, Peter Sars, Kate Robbins, and Norman Macdonald and Anna Dawson 6.25 *Thames News* and weather 6.30 *The Young Doctors*. Australian medical drama series.

7.00 *Cartoon*. *Cartoon* (r) 7.10 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 7.20 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 7.30 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 7.40 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 7.50 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.00 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.10 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.20 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.30 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.40 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 8.50 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.00 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.10 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.20 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.30 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.40 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 9.50 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.00 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.10 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.20 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.30 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.40 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 10.50 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.00 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.10 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.20 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.30 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.40 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* (r) 11.50 *Pinocchio*. *Cartoon* (r) 12.00 *Blueberry*. *Cartoon* 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## Political progress hope in Ireland

By Edward Gorman  
Irish Affairs Correspondent

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, yesterday invited Unionist leaders for talks with him, in the latest sign that political progress is likely in Northern Ireland.

Mr Haughey's invitation followed an unexpectedly warm reception by Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, to the Irish Prime Minister's comments on Sunday to the effect that he will be prepared to consider a replacement for the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Yesterday, Mr Haughey said any change in the status of the treaty could only happen through negotiation and with the agreement of Britain. Senior Government sources in London said Mr Haughey's comments were not "unhelpful" but that there were no plans to change the agreement. They said it was unclear what Unionists intended to replace the agreement with.

The Unionist leadership has not changed its demand that before talks begin, operation of the agreement must be suspended for at least three months.

In making his invitation to Unionists, the second in the last two months, Mr Haughey alluded to the improving political climate in Ulster, following the devolution speech by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland on January 9.

The Taoiseach said the last couple of weeks had seen a broadening of the debate about the stakes for political progress, adding that he welcomed all contributions to that debate.

"There is a perception that the political climate may be more conducive to progress than at any time in the immediate past," Mr Haughey said.

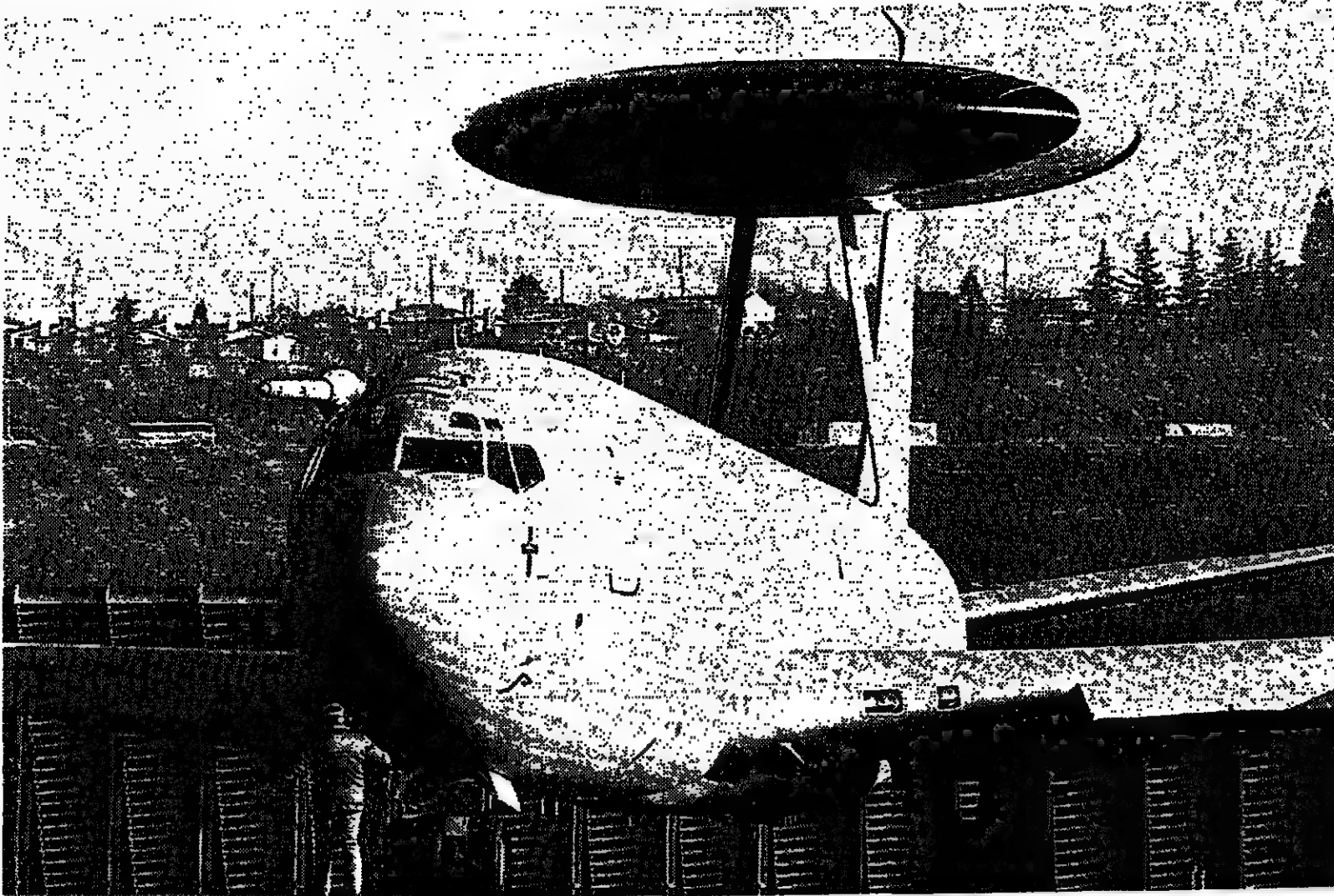
He said a lasting solution to Northern Ireland would depend on the dynamics of three relationships: between the communities in Ulster itself; between Northern Ireland and the Republic; and between Britain and Ireland.

Earlier, Mr Moynihan welcomed Mr Haughey's comments to the effect that the Anglo Irish Agreement was not cast in stone and could be replaced through negotiation. "I don't say that we are through the woods yet," Mr Moynihan said. "I am only saying that there is a kind of progression about all of this which has been going on for about two years."

"We are at last moving slowly and cautiously in the right direction and I think I could speak for most of the people in Northern Ireland, (who) would applaud that kind of advancement."

## First airing for Britain's watchdog

JULIAN HERBERT



The first of the RAF's AWACs in Seattle, where it is being checked by Squadron Leader Michael Edwards (below), aged 36, a test pilot from Boscombe Down.



By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The first of the RAF's seven new airborne early warning aircraft is now being put through its paces at the Boeing headquarters in Seattle.

Later this week an RAF Tistar, which has been flown to Seattle, will test the RAF's special system for transferring fuel in flight. Most of the airworthiness programmes will, however, be shared with the French, who have also ordered four AWACs jets.

Britain is paying Boeing \$1.3 billion for the seven aircraft, a development of the Boeing 707, which will remain on permanent patrol over the North Sea and the Iceland gap to spot any intruders into British airspace.

Boeing was chosen for the

contract after a protracted battle with GEC, which had hoped to improve the radar in the British-built Nimrod reconnaissance aircraft so that it could carry out the work.

In return Boeing promised to provide \$1.5 billion worth of work for British companies in "off-set" deals over an eight-year period. In the first two years since the contract was signed, a total of \$671 million worth of such work has been approved so far by the Ministry of Defence.

The aircraft now flying from Boeing Field is painted in the RAF's new camouflage colours with the RAF roundels painted pink—a colour the Ministry of Defence prefers to call "tuned down red".

## Cambridge agency site doubt Inquiry ruled out

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

Councillors in Cambridge have publicly rejected the Government's attempt to secure for the city the European Environment Agency, for which every member state of the European Community is bidding.

The city council's environment committee is asking the full council to make "direct representations" to the European Commission opposing the plan.

Councillors felt that the agency in the city would add to the mushrooming development experienced by

Cambridge in recent years, which has caused labour and housing shortages, and considerable traffic problems. The news of the vote was yesterday greeted with astonishment in London and in Brussels. Mr Robert Rhodes-James, Conservative MP for Cambridge, said: "It's absolutely nuts. I am furious. The agency will involve about 50 jobs and the argument that this will add to congestion in the city is drivell."

A senior EC official said: "All the other bids for the agency have been strongly supported at the highest level by their municipalities. It is frankly staggering if the British Government have proposed Cambridge without having the idea past the local authority."

The Department of the Environment said last night it was aware of the vote, but "this is not the message we are getting from senior officials of the council."

Even if the Labour-controlled council decides to oppose the agency, it is not certain whether it would require planning permission.

Continued from page 1

the controversial prosecution of Mr Kevin Taylor on fraud charges.

In a Commons written reply to Mr Cecil Frank, the Conservative MP for Barrow and Furness, the Home Secretary said it was for the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester to consider whether proceedings against Mr Taylor indicated any misconduct by officers in his force and if so to institute an appropriate disciplinary or criminal investigation.

Last night members of the Conservative backbench home affairs committee dis-

continued the issue with Mr Waddington.

Meanwhile Mr Stalker arranged last night to hand over to the Home Office the document which he says helps to prove that he was deliberately removed from his "shoot-to-kill" inquiry.

It consists of a collection of memos from the former head of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Sir John Hermon, and is believed to refer to a meeting of senior civil servants at which the decision to remove Mr Stalker was taken.

It would have been produced at Mr Taylor's trial if the case had not collapsed.

## Political sketch Perfect specimens on display

"Questions to the Minister for the Arts will begin not later than 3.10pm."

Mr Richard Luce, arts minister and also minister for the Civil Service, was ready, at 3.10 pm yesterday.

There is a convention in public life that those with a vested interest do not conceal the fact. If, for example, you were an African elephant, your opinions on zoo-funding would need to be declared.

And if you were Dr John Marek (Lab, Wrexham) or Mr Frank Haynes (Lab, Ashfield) you would not demand free public admission to national museums without mentioning your eligibility for a glass display case of your own.

Dr Marek started it yesterday, with a question to Richard Luce. What was the minister's policy, he asked, "on compulsory admission charges to national museums?"

Mr Luce didn't seem to have one. It was "up to the trustees", he said.

Dr Marek was furious. If you can imagine how a very angry Dalek would speak, then you have his measure. The PM was recently said to be "fizzing" with rage. It is hard for Dr Dalek to fizz as he has a lip, but he made the sort of sound you get when steam escapes from the craters of very thick boiling porridge.

Museum admissions were dropping wherever charges had been introduced, he said. They had dropped by 85 per cent at the Welsh National Museum.

Dr Marek's indignation has a curiously soothing quality and I began to daydream. I saw him, now, in my mind's eye, behind a glass case in Cardiff, and glanced at the catalogue-entry...

"MAREK, DR JOHN, BSC (Hons) PhD MP. Born circa 1940. Lecturer in Applied Mathematics at Aberystwyth 1966-83. Labour spokesman on sundry matters. Publications: various research papers. A very nicely preserved example of a species already in decline when this specimen was still in early prime. Of high intelligence and leftish views, the habitat was almost entirely academic and the species never really adapted to the more vulgar 'hunting' pack environment of the 1990s. Very distinctive cry: sputtering, inimitable. No real instinct for the jugular, but sometimes known to bore its prey into submission. Now very rare..."

I stirred in my daydream. Through the slumber came a great roar from the Labour benches below me. It would soon be sunset, and a Haynes was coming down to the waterhole to drink. The other animals giggled. "Let's have some action!" started the beast. "I want to know from the minister..." "We don't want charges! I have the full backing of the Nottinghamshire County Council!" It was little short of deafening.

I pictured the exhibit's inscription at the National History Museum: (admissions down "40 per cent" Marek had told us)...

"HAYNES, MR FRANK, MP. Born circa 1926. Fireman on the Southern Railway, then coal miner. Classic example of a species already almost extinct. Working-class soap-box orator: origins genuine, ideology confused, cry—amongst the loudest in the E. Midlands. This aggressive, but loyal beast proved hopelessly ill-equipped for the hunting methods of the Filofacials which had infiltrated its herd. A tragic loss to archaeology."

I awoke. Mr Toby Jessel (C, Twickenham) was commencing "the recent re-hanging at the Tate".

Mr Jessel has been a consistent supporter of capital punishment and the thought occurred to me that he had in this case become confused, believing that a "re-hanging" was some kind of a super-charged version of an ordinary hanging. I banished the thought, as Patrick Cormack (C, Stuffs 8) urged the minister to study a select committee report. Mr Cormack obviously knew all about it. He had the air of those people who say "ssshh!" to you in public galleries. The minister bit his lip, concurred, and squeaked off across the floorboards to another department.

It was the Civil Service Department. "Questions to the Minister for the Civil Service" were to begin "not later than 3.20 pm."

Matthew Parris

## Anger grows in Baku

Continued from page 1

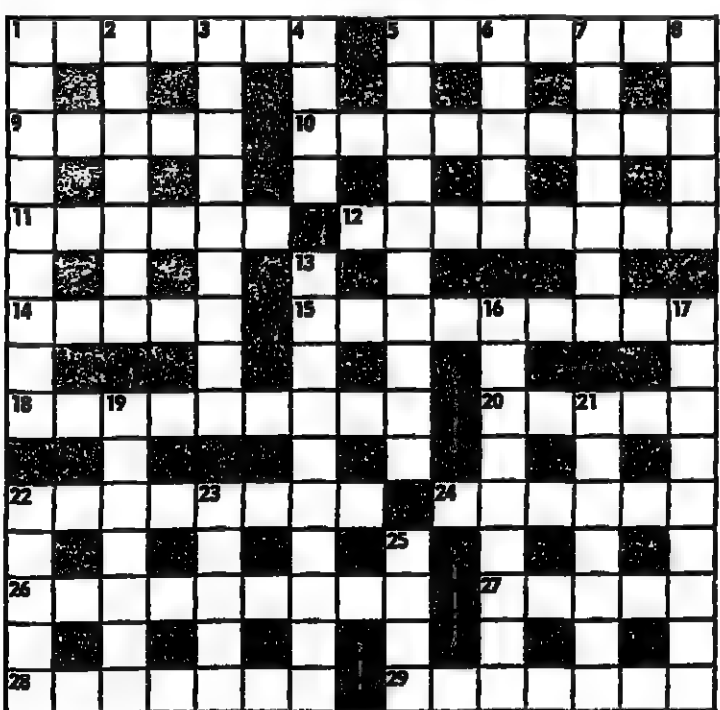
had sealed the border, and were allowing Soviet Azerbaijanis back into the country only after strict controls.

Soviet troops in the troubled region were redeployed on Sunday. Tass said a large number of people were arrested, including a leading member of the "national de-

fence committee" who was carrying weapons.

Attacks on military depots and government buildings continued in Armenia. Troops recovered some of the stolen weapons. Tass said that on Saturday an armed group attacked a ground-to-air missile detachment near Yerevan, but was repulsed.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,198



- ACROSS**
- 1 Drinking in college (7).
  - 5 A swan, and two-thirds of a pig—some bird (7).
  - 9 Musical instrument playing a sort of blue (5).
  - 10 Dandy's showing a high temperature, and is inflamed (5-4).
  - 12 Sign for the sound of armour (6).
  - 13 Man admits defeat and demands some explanation (8).
  - 14 People having a row can be private in the back (5).
  - 15 Is a one-man-operated train open to attack? (9).
  - 18 Unqualified for position on stage (9).
  - 20 Many a girl shows style (5).
  - 22 Announce arrival of trains with ceremony (8).
  - 24 Could you call him a materialist, being in commerce? Right (6).
- DOWN**
- 2 Pretended a piece of glass is reported in the wine (9).
  - 7 Ruinous in appearance, I was struggling (5).
  - 8 Educationalist of curious interest, almost (7).
  - 9 Those in best condition are ready to go to the match (7).
  - 11 Cook said gluttony had bad effects (9).
  - 12 Recording includes Welsh singer (7).
  - 13 One changing a lot may be vain—or not (9).
  - 14 Pass the fish (4).
  - 15 Academic has tie that's loose (10).
  - 16 They are barely worth painting (5).
  - 17 Keats's sweeter melodies not tried (7).
  - 18 Starts off neat and tidy, then yearns to be smartly dressed (5).
  - 19 Guard gerbil—endlessly wandering pet (10).
  - 20 How to resolve the claims of mediaeval enquirer (9).
  - 21 Token tried, but bent—shame (9).
  - 22 Campaign, and rations for it? (7).
  - 23 Record rainbow over site of industry (7).
  - 24 Cuts wildly at the string (5).
  - 25 Young Pooter found in bed (5).
  - 26 Extra section for table takes two pages (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,197

SPEEDY SPEARHEAD  
TUXE BROWN EMBELL  
OUTRAGEOUS AMBER  
NERVE RENEWED ORG  
ERASE TEMPERATE  
WPCESSEI INEXCESS  
ARTISAN CLAPNET  
LAWRENCE SHAMING  
LEADERS SHINGLE  
CLOUTIER SHIMMER  
THEORIST FLAIR  
OBSERVE FLAUNT  
HAMED OVERVIEWING  
LAIR CROCKLETH  
CONTINENT YEAST

## WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

**ONCHOCERIASIS**  
a. River blindness  
b. A type of circular argument  
c. Role by lottery

**GENNAKER**  
a. To argue for pleasure  
b. A middle man  
c. A kind of sail

**TAMASSIA**  
a. The yellow tomato  
b. An entertainment  
c. A Mexican veil

**THANATISE**  
a. To kill  
b. To clean  
c. To prophesy

Answers on page 20

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0535 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks  
C. London (within N & S Circs.) 731  
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732  
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 733  
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 734  
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735  
M25 London Orbital only 736

National motorways and roadworks  
National motorways 737  
West Country 738  
Wales 739  
Midlands 740  
North-west England 741  
North-east England 742  
Scotland 743  
Northern Ireland 744

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Coudees Crossword, page 28

## WEATHER

A band of rain, heavy at times, over England and Wales, will move quickly south-eastwards. The whole of the country will have blustery showers, more especially in the west and north where some could be thundery. The showers will turn wintry over Scotland and the border counties. It will be windy in all parts. Outlook: sunny spells but also blustery, wintry showers, especially in the north and west.

## ABROAD

MONDAY: (b) thunder; (c) drizzle; (f) fog; (g) sun; (h) rain; (i) snow; (j) hail; (k) rain; (l) rain; (m) rain; (n) rain; (o) rain; (p) rain; (q) rain; (r) rain; (s) rain; (t) rain; (u) rain; (v) rain; (w) rain; (x) rain; (y) rain; (z) rain.

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## TEMPUS

# Failed Higgs bid could stir up the construction melting pot

One takeover battle for Higgs and Hill may be over, but another may yet be born. Y.J. Lovell, which secured only a 34.82 per cent foothold in its bid target and has now lapsed its offer, is "reviewing its options" over its own 9.99 per cent Higgs stake, suggesting it would be unwise to be short of Higgs shares.

Lovell shares yesterday fell by 4p at 247p, and Higgs shares were back by 8p at 400p. But the prospective price/earnings ratio for Higgs at 7 backed by a gross 7 per cent yield, and that for Lovell at 5.9 backed by a gross 5.2 per cent yield, makes both in their own right worth a second look.

During the nine weeks of battle, both sides showed their hand and outlined their ambitions, and both are now more visible in investment circles.

Higgs laid to rest the ghost of just how exposed it is to the depressed housing market, and demonstrated in a pie-chart of likely 1989 results that homes would account for 25.6 per cent of profits, construction would make up a respectable 31.4 per cent slice, and that property would bring in the 43 per cent balance.

Profits look like rolling forward again this year. After an indicated £26.3 million (excluding exceptional) for the year ended December, pre-tax profits of £30 million could be on the cards for 1990.

Meanwhile, Lovell which last year posted pre-tax profits of £33.4 million should be on course for profits of £37 million in the year to end September, and remains determined to grow both organically and by acquisition.

As for its Higgs holding, it could offload in the market or place with another prospective bidder. Given Higgs's prospects, there could be no shortage of takers. Alternatively, Lovell could hold tight and come back in a year's time.

But takeover tables could turn - and since Lovell has raised its own profile, a bid from other quarters would not surprise.

## Legal & General

More than £250 million has been wiped off the market value of Legal & General in the past fortnight, an apparently perverse reaction to the 65 per cent rise in new business reported by the life insurer for 1989.

But the way the new business figures are presented exaggerates the strength of the upturn. Fully 90 per cent of the £650 million rise to £1.66 billion represents an increase in funds under management, in turn a reflection of Legal & General's success in selling index funds to pension trustees.

Leaving the low-margin fund management business on one side and giving single-premium sales only one tenth of the weighting of new annual premiums, the rise was a more modest 15 per cent.

In fact, the figures are in line with expectations. The main reason the shares fell from their peak of 439p early in the new year to their current 381p is because bid hopes are fading.



Well placed: Roger Fletcher, of Menvier-Swain, yesterday

The shares shot up by more than a pound after Australian Mutual Provident launched its £1.24 billion bid for Pearl in October and, in the absence of any predator activity, they now look high on a prospective yield of 5 1/2 per cent.

However, few analysts believe that the predators have withdrawn entirely. Huge continental insurers such as Allianz and Générale are still under-represented in Britain. They might prefer a swipe at

## Menvier-Swain

Menvier-Swain Group is wary of saying it does well out of a disaster, but it is clear that tragedies such as the Kings

Cross Underground fire have not harmed sales by ensuring a more stringent imposition of the rules by local fire brigades.

But the revelation that much of the Underground still has no emergency lighting or fire alarms brings out how much further the market in Britain has to go, although by the company's own estimates annual sales growth has fallen from 20 per cent six months ago to about 15 per cent today.

The lion's share of expansion will come in Europe. It plans forays into West Germany, while the Mediterranean countries offer good prospects in the run-up to 1992.

By this year-end about a third of profits should come from overseas. In this country it could suffer from any slowdown in industrial and commercial building, although it reckons it can make up lost new build from the refurbishment sector.

Menvier-Swain, where Mr Roger Fletcher is managing director, is largely recession-proof, therefore, and well-positioned in a clear growth market. It was floated at 120p in March 1986 and saw its share move ahead 8p to 368p on news yesterday of interim pre-tax profits up from £1.62 million to £2.43 million, aided by its acquisition programme - organic growth tracked the 30 per cent rise in eps.

Assuming £5.2 million pre-tax this year, the shares are selling on a multiple of 14 times' future earnings, in a thin market and with the founders apparently keen to retain control. Fully-valued, but worth buying on any weakness if they become available.

## Domestic appliance sales slump

By Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor

Sales of domestic electrical appliances last year plunged 30 per cent or more in some sectors and British manufacturers, which account for 60 per cent of the market, fear there will be no improvement this year.

Mr Jim Collis, director general of the Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances, said the situation was "very serious" for British makers. High interest rates pushing up mortgage interest payments and bringing stagnation to the housing market are mainly blamed for the slump.

Mild weather compounded problems for space heating manufacturers which saw sales plunge 30 per cent, while electric blanket makers had one of their worst years with sales down just over 40 per cent.

Electric cooker sales were among the hardest hit by consumer reaction to mortgage rate rises. Deliveries overall were down 17 per cent but built-in models suffered most as sales dropped by at least a quarter.

The built-in sector is dominated by imports but a big proportion of free-standing cookers, sales of which were down 9 per cent, are made in Britain. The British market share is 87 per cent, down from 92 per cent in 1988.

Microwave ovens, a boom sector for the past five years, turned down by 30 per cent. Sales may eventually bottom out at about 1 million units a year, makers say.

Sales of home laundry appliances fell 11 per cent. Automatic washing machines saw a drop of 11 per cent, with demand sustained to some extent by a steady replacement level.

The good summer saw tumble drier sales plunge 21 per cent and spin drier sales dropped 15 per cent.

Refrigeration equipment makers benefited from the hot weather however. They saw only a 2 per cent sales decline but vacuum cleaner sales were down 7 per cent.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## LEP to pay £9m for German haulier

LEP Group, the international freight forwarding and distribution company, is acquiring Wohlfarth Group, a private West German transport and distribution company, for DM25 million (£9 million). The purchase represents an extension of LEP's strategy to offer a more integrated service and pan-European distribution.

Wohlfarth operates nearly 1,000 vehicles from 33 locations and employs more than 1,500 people. It also operates road/rail facilities. The company made profits of DM5.5 million after tax in 1988 on turnover of DM264 million and had net assets of DM13.8 million at end-December 1989.

## Fisons' bid is cleared

The proposed acquisition by Fisons of VG Instruments, a maker of scientific instruments, will not be referred to the Monopolies Commission, the Department of Trade and Industry said. Fisons, which makes pharmaceuticals and scientific equipment, launched its agreed bid - worth £270.2 million - for VG Instruments in December.

## Heath rises to £327,000

Samuel Heath & Sons, the Birmingham gift and hardware maker, lifted pre-tax profits 28 per cent to £327,000 in the six months to end-September, on turnover up 4.6 per cent to £3.43 million. Earnings per share rise by 27 per cent to 7p, while the interim dividend is maintained at 1.5p. Samuel Heath's shares firmed 5p to close at 135p.

## Contracts for Amec

Amec, the building and civil engineering group, has won orders worth £60 million, including a three-year contract from Thames Water. The water contract involves the laying and repairing of water mains and service pipes in three London districts.

In addition, Amec's Fairclough building division is to construct a shopping centre in south-west England, a supermarket in the north-east and a hotel and office project in the Midlands.

## Nevada deal for Erskine

Erskine House has acquired Sierra Nevada Concepts, a Nevada office machines business, for a maximum \$9.5 million (£5.8 million). SOC sells and leases Ricoh and Savin copying and facsimile machines and made pre-tax profits of \$1.2 million in 1989-90. Up to \$2.5 million of the price is linked to SOC's performance up to March, 1992.

## Westport advances

Westport Group, the marketing services group, increased pre-tax profits by 37 per cent to £1.24 million in the half year to end-October. Turnover climbed by 16 per cent to £8.12 million. Eps slip from 1.16p to 0.87p, after dilution from August's £16.2 million acquisition of Carlton Fox and Carlton Studios. The company does not pay an interim dividend.

## Franke increases offer

Franke, the Swiss group battling for control of Carrou Phoenix, the USM-listed sink manufacturer based in Falkirk, is increasing its offer from 73p a share to 90p. Franke, which has 5.3 per cent of Carrou, was buying more shares in the market yesterday at 90p.

34, which has a 21.7 per cent stake in Carrou, intends to accept the 90p cash offer, which values Carrou at about £10 million, unless there is a higher offer before Wednesday. Bene, the French group, is also interested in acquiring Carrou, but has not yet increased its bid of 60p a share. Carrou shares rose 7p to 93p. The company was floated two years ago at 120p. Its shares were 38p before the bid battle started.

## HK watchdog ready to allow share buy-backs

From Lala Yu  
Hong Kong

Hong Kong's securities watchdogs are proposing new measures aimed at improving investor protection and boosting market liquidity.

They want the colony's takeover rules revised to lower the trigger point for a general offer for shares from 35 per cent to 30 per cent.

They also propose allowing public companies to buy back their shares, and removal of the ban on short-selling.

The Hong Kong Stock Exchange and the Securities and Futures Commission has released a consultative document recommending that repurchasing of shares be permitted with prior shareholder approval and disclosure of buy-back activities.

The buy-backs could be by general offer, or through the Stock Exchange.

The maximum number of shares re-purchased through



Hay Davison: market review

the Stock Exchange could not exceed 10 per cent of a company's total outstanding shares in any 12-month period. In order to protect creditors, companies could use only distributable profits to buy back shares.

Mr Geoffrey Lewis, a British lawyer advising the government on securities, said that buy-back activities could boost liquidity in the Hong Kong market, where many

stocks traded at big discounts to net asset values.

"At present, Hong Kong companies compare unfavourably against other jurisdictions," said Mr Lewis.

More than 10 per cent of the colony's listed companies have moved domicile overseas.

Acceptance of short-selling was called for by Mr Ian Hay Davison, the former Lloyd's chief executive brought in to review the colony's financial markets in 1988.

The Stock Exchange and the SFC are expected to recommend next month that public companies be required to make a general offer once up to a 30 per cent stake, in line with British practice, and that consideration of all takeover questions by the full takeover committee be replaced by a two-tier system of an executive and staff dealing with most cases and an appeal panel of practitioners taking those on a higher level.

## Caution by ABC after rise to £1m

By Jeremy Andrews

Associated British Consultants, the structural engineering consultant which came to the market last March, says that although its order books are higher than at any point last year, recent months have seen a softening in some areas of the construction industry.

For the half-year to October, pre-tax profits jumped 64 per cent to £1.13 million on sales up 54 per cent at £6.09 million.

Because of the dilution from the £1.2 million worth of shares placed at the time of its flotation, earnings per share were only 36 per cent ahead at 9.5p despite a 3-point fall to 37 per cent in its tax charge.

The interim dividend of 2.2p is 26 per cent up on the pro forma 1.75p that would have been distributed had ABC Consultants been quoted for a full year.

James-Carrington, the Birmingham-based structural engineer, acquired for £750,000 in June, achieved anticipated profit levels.

The new Leeds office of Kennington Little the main building consultancy subsidiary, is already operating profitably. ABC Consultants is aiming to follow its clients north as business in the South-east tails off.

## Leisure side helps Baldwin leap 51%

By Sam Parkhouse

Baldwin has transformed itself from a struggling Nottingham-based building products company into a profitable leisure group with interests as far away as Florida.

In the year to October 31 it increased pre-tax profits 51 per cent to £2.5 million on turnover 35 per cent better at £34.8 million.

This follows the disposal in April of HJ Baldwin, the once core building products business, and the expansion of holiday villa, tour operating and continental mobile home interests.

HJ Baldwin had fallen into decline when orders from the Sullom Voe oil terminal began to dry up.

Mr Malcolm Durham, finance director, said the group

sold the company to Evered for £2 million, because it was expected that profits would more than halve to about £100,000.

In the last year Keycamp Holidays was transformed into a leading operator of mobile home holidays in France and Spain.

Taking in the performance of Starvillas, profits of £1.1 million were earned by the leisure division.

Continuing property and printing interests contributed £1.09 million.

Directors are recommending a final dividend of 1.4p which brings the total for the year up to 2.55p from 2.15p, on earnings per share 22 per cent higher at 10.5p. The shares rose 5p to 120p.

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# Wentworth and Savoy lining up leisure links

By Matthew Bond

Wentworth Group Holdings—the company that owns the famous golf club in Virginia Water, Surrey—and the Savoy Group are believed to be looking at joint ventures in the leisure and hotel field.

Any new projects they embark on could well involve further support from many of the companies that subscribed for the £32 million share placing in the golf club last autumn. The identities of the companies that bought Wentworth shares in the private placing handled by Nomura were revealed yesterday.

They include Shimizu, the Japanese construction company, Nippon Life, the biggest life company in the world; Mr Edmond Safra's Republic National Bank of New York and Mr Eddy Shah's Messenger Group. The shares also offer their owners certain playing rights.

Mr Elliott Bernard, chairman of Chelsfield, the private company that owns the remaining 60 per cent of Wentworth, is delighted with the

## Wentworth's new shareholders

Japanese	Non Japanese
Shimizu Construction (5)	Savoy (3)
Sunbino Trust Bank (2)	Republic Nat Bank of New York (3)
Nomura Securities (2)	Banco de Santander (2)
Yamanouchi Pharmaceuticals (2)	Multi Commercial Bank (2)
Suntory (2)	
Yasuda Trust	
Nippon Life	Bank of East Asia
Chiyoda Mutual Life	Crédit Suisse
Nikko Securities	Security Pacific
Shibakawa Construction	Messinger Group
Tokai Construction	ADT
Citibank	South Yorks pension fund
Mitsubishi	David U. Dickinson Poon
Fujitsu	

All shareholders have one share unless otherwise indicated

calibre of the companies the placing attracted.

"We have got a very, very good list of shareholders. It is the kind of list that you would be proud to have in any company."

Each share in Wentworth cost £800,000 to buy, with some companies opting to buy several. Shimizu is the largest shareholder with five shares, while two companies, Savoy Group and Republic National

Bank of New York, each have three. The Savoy's stake was paid for in shares, giving Chelsfield a 1 per cent stake in the London hotel group.

The move cemented the already close relationship between the two companies. Mr Willy Bauer, the former Savoy manager, is chief executive of Wentworth. The first venture between the two in the leisure field is expected soon.

The first trading in a

secondary market for the shares is believed to be imminent. It is understood that the Messenger Group has already been offered a substantial premium for its shares, but has declined to sell.

A large slice of the £32 million raised by the issue has been earmarked to build a new clubhouse. Plans for an 80,000 sq ft building are likely to be submitted in March, according to Mr Bauer. The club's tennis facilities are also scheduled for improvement.

The shares placed provoked some protest from members.

Mr Mamoru Miki, the Japanese businessman and Wentworth member who has been opposing the changes, said he doubted the permanence of some companies appearing on the shareholder list. "I still think that a number of these companies are underwriting the issue and that they are there just for the time being."

Mr Bauer said: "Now, I think 95 per cent of the membership support our ideas. There will always be some who are not totally with you."

# Building society lending slumps

By Lindsay Cook  
Family Money Editor

Mortgage lending by building societies was sharply down in December. Net new mortgage commitments fell by more than £800 million on November to £2.88 billion.

It was the second lowest month during 1989. Gross mortgage advances were also down by £567 million on the previous month.

But gross mortgage advances increased to £11.87 billion in the final quarter from £11.5 billion in the previous quarter. Net lending for the year was £4.5 billion down to £4.6 billion.

Mr Mark Boleat, the director general of the Building Societies Association, said: "Net new commitments fell for two reasons. December is normally a quiet month because of seasonal factors, a feature which has been reinforced this year by the increase in mortgage rates in October and November."

On the savings side, net receipts were £1 million lower at £176 million. These were affected by withdrawals for water shares at the beginning of the month. Many refund cheques and the proceeds of sold water shares would not have reached societies before January.

Mr Boleat added: "Despite the absence of the Abbey National from the figures in the second half of the year, gross mortgage advances increased by 13 per cent on the first half of the year, while net new commitments were down by only 2 per cent—a clear indication of the societies' rising market share."

## Waterhouse to advise on IBA privatization

Price Waterhouse, the leading accountancy firm, has won the prestigious contract to advise the Home Office on the privatization of the Independent Broadcasting Authority's TV and radio transmission system. PW, the only accountancy firm which pitched for the job, was in competition with five merchant banks.

The IBA's transmission system comprises more than 20 main masts plus about 400 relay stations which broadcast commercial television and radio programmes nationally.

PW has acted in various capacities in most of the large state sales.

# Coloroll's chief finds overdrive in reverse

Coloroll Group has always had a foot somewhat uncomfortably in both the manufacturing and retail sectors. It need worry no longer, for it is now firmly relocated into quite another rapidly-expanding sector of the stock market, that of the Fallen Angels. It is a sobering thought to realize that Coloroll shares, which plummeted from 63p to 25p on yesterday's profits warning, were trading at a peak of 383p in summer 1987.

Not much more than a year ago Coloroll was being touted around by its professional advisers—now conspicuous by their absence from the scene—as a wonder-stock that would grow and grow. But with the benefit of hindsight we can all see what chairman John Ashcroft apparently failed to appreciate: that high internal gearing in an activity sensitive to interest rates is like having overdrive on reverse gear.

There is another lesson for entrepreneurs and investors to be learned from Coloroll's miserable situation: that contingent liabilities appear unimportant when tucked away as a note to the accounts, but achieve great significance when a company is speeding backwards towards the wall. Coloroll has £40 million of such liabilities, which at times of stress it has to add to its debt. Slightly more than half the total relates to the disposal of the clothing side of John Crowther. Some disposal—when 18 months after the event it still shakes the company!

Mr Ashcroft, newly honoured with a CBE and a normally outgoing entrepreneur, was keeping his head below the parapet last night. But the sums he is having to scribble on the back of unsold rolls of wallpaper make miserable reading. Gearing levels, if the feared provisions have to be made against the contingent liabilities, will rise into the hundreds while interest cover shrinks back towards one.

There is unlikely to be any joy for the group from John Major's maiden Budget, but no doubt on his next visit to Number Ten Mr Ashcroft will mention the problems which high interest rates are bringing to the most thriving examples of the enterprise culture.

He could explain that Coloroll's operating profits, in the space of a year, have shrunk from £70 million to £30 million, and that is before interest, which will take two thirds of the operating profit. Next year, the interest bill will rise and unless there is some recovery in Coloroll's operating profits, the pre-tax line will contract towards break-even. A year ago, such a possibility would have been unthinkable.

The only certain salvation for battered Coloroll shareholders would seem to be the emergence of a predator tempted by the bombed-out share price. Williams Holdings, the conglomerate, has a stake of around 1 per cent bought last year but is seen as unlikely to bid Mr Brian McGowan, Williams' finance director, commented. "We constantly take stakes like this—sometimes we get it very right, occasionally we don't seem to get it so right."

# GEC sees end to famine

The stock market has seen all too many false dawns at GEC to change its long-term view lightly. But nowadays there is a growing conviction, evidenced by a 5 per cent outperformance in the shares since last month's figures, that it is a mistake to be short of GEC.

The £630 million order for 90 high speed trains for GEC-Alsthom, hard on the heels of the £115 million contract for electrification of BR's east coast main line, heralds the shape of things to come.

Capital spending on Europe's railways is due for substantial growth after 10 lean years. Long-suffering commuters in the South-east will scarcely be surprised that BR is stepping up its re-equipment programme. This was running at £450 million in the 1986-87 financial year, is set for £600 million in the current year and should reach £900 million in 1991-92.

In continental Europe, the annual spend is likely to be £3.5 billion over the next five years. Spending on railway equipment, Europe-wide, is expected to reach £18 billion over the next four years according to the research team at UBS Phillips & Drew.

And the joint venture between GEC and the French group CGE is well placed to do nicely. Of the local competition, only the Asea Brown Boveri combine can offer financial muscle on a scale comparable to GEC-Alsthom.

A similar boom is expected in GEC-Alsthom's other main area of operation, power generation equipment. Power stations are big, expensive and last a long time. But now the long famine, which set in during the 1970s, is nearing its end. And the effective cancellation of Britain's nuclear programme will trigger demand for smaller scale projects.

GEC stands to gain not merely from overall growth, but also by enabling the joint venture to lever margins on Alsthom's vast order book closer to levels acceptable to Lord Weinstock. The across-the-board margin in the first year of the collaboration was just 4.2 per cent. Shifting Alsthom's 2.6 per cent margin closer to GEC's 8 per cent may take time. But in the current year the process could rise to a 75 per cent lift in operating profit attributable to the two partners, according to P&D estimates.

GEC's other recent joint ventures are also picking up speed. The group's strong cash backing, high degree of overseas exposure and the pedestrian outlook for UK corporate earnings suggest the re-rating of its shares will continue.

# WPP in £25.4m US expansion

By Gillian Bowditch

WPP Group, Mr Martin Sorrell's marketing services group, confirmed yesterday it was buying Thomas G Ferguson Associates, a New Jersey-based healthcare marketing and advertising company, for a maximum of \$41.7 million (£25.4 million).

Thomas Ferguson clients include several Johnson & Johnson companies and divisions of Warner Lambert.

The group is the third largest US agency specialising in healthcare communications. WPP shares fell 5p to 689p on news of the deal.

WPP is paying an initial \$12.5 million, \$10 million cash and the remainder in shares. Profit-related payments will be made for the years ending 1991, 1992 and 1993.

The total consideration will be based on a multiple of 10 times the average profits after tax of Thomas Ferguson for the three years ended December 1994.

The total maximum consideration is \$41.7 million. Thomas Ferguson made pre-tax profits of \$2.2 million last year.

WPP says the acquisition will strengthen its position in healthcare and medical marketing where it already has a presence in America, Britain, France, Germany, and the

Netherlands. Healthcare is one of the fastest growing sectors in advertising with revenues of about \$4.5 billion world-wide.

WPP is expected to report full-year profits of about \$75 million in March but analysts are looking to the half-year results to see if the group is feeling the pinch.

Mr Philip Higson, an analyst with BZW, says: "We expect consumer spending to be at its weakest for 10 years in the next six months and that impacts directly on advertising."

When the annual billings figures for the industry are reported in March, WPP at about \$13.9 billion, is expected to have overtaken Saatchi & Saatchi, which has long been the sector leader.

Mr Sorrell is not keen to be seen as someone battling for the number one slot in billings terms, believing quality not quantity is the key to success.

Mr Higson says total revenue and profits are a more accurate guide to success. This year he expects WPP to be one-third larger than Saatchi with revenue of £1.3 billion and pre-tax profits of £110 million against revenue from Saatchi of £1 billion and pre-tax profits of £65 million for the year to September 1990.



Posed to take over as market leader: Martin Sorrell of WPP

# Addison sells Streets to Dutch firm for £1m

By Jeremy Andrews

Addison Consultancy's long hunt for a buyer for Streets, once London's biggest financial public relations firm, is over. It has sold it to Thomas & Kleyn, a leading Dutch PR consultant, for £1 million, a £250,000 premium to its estimated book value.

Addison has been under pressure to tidy its corporate structure because MAI, the poster and money-broking group, and Virtus, the holding

company of a French market research entrepreneur, M Jean-Louis Croquet, both hold a quarter of its equity.

An attempt last April to sell the loss-making Streets for £1 million to a management group backed by coal and rail pension funds fell through.

Addison now consists of just two market researchers, Taylor Nelson and MaS. T&K aims to use the Streets name in Europe.

# Abbey pays £42m for French mortgage lender

By Our Family Money Editor

Abbey National confirmed yesterday that it has bought Ficofrance, the French mortgage lender, and is also to launch an endowment mortgage in France.

Abbey, which already has subsidiaries in Spain and Italy, is paying approximately £40 million (£41.8 million) for Ficofrance, which is based in Caen and has 12 regional offices.

Abbey will launch the mort-

gage with Monceau, the mutual insurance group. The endowment loans—not generally available in France—will be sold through Ficofrance's offices and Monceau's branches.

Mr Peter Birch, Abbey chief executive, said: "Our entry into the French mortgage market is part of our careful expansion into closely-related business activities."

Ficofrance's profits after tax were £38 million in 1988.

# Bond puts homes on the market

Alan Bond, the beleaguered boss of the Australian brewing empire, really is trying to raise as much cash as possible. Not only has one of his mansions down under been put up for sale, but so too have the two adjacent properties he owns in an exclusive Georgian terrace in Kensington's Cotswold Gardens. Although no "for sale" signs have appeared, I am assured that both houses—which Bond has been using as one enormous London residence—are now on the market. Estate agents are obliged to be discreet, however, because of an agreement among residents in the private road that "for sale" boards must never be used. Bond paid a total of £7 million for them in 1988 and they are said to be easily splittable back into two individual houses. They are in first class decorative order and boast a 30 metre swimming pool in the basement, as well as more than a dozen bedrooms. Neighbours reckon that he should realize at least £8 million for a quick sale, even in a depressed market. Meanwhile, Bond is also still trying to find a buyer for his Oxfordshire country estate, Glympton Park. He recently turned down a £10 million offer—he is, I am told, holding out for £3 million more.

# Golden bean

The Square Mile may have once been famous for its coffee shops but now residents in the Japanese city of Nara

# THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## Althaus on the move

James Althaus, son of former Government broker Sir Nigel Althaus, has joined the growing ranks of redundant City workers. Old Etonian Althaus, aged 27—"and ageing rapidly," he says—was given his P&S last week by Garban, the inter-dealer broker, where he had worked for the past four years. Admitting that like many other brokers in the gilt

market he was "over paid and under worked," he nevertheless wants to find another job in the Square Mile. "I want to stay in the City and the gilt market has so far been the limit of my experience," he says. "But until the atmosphere in the gilt market improves, it might be worth looking at other areas of activity in the City."

claim to have gone one better. At "The House for Distinguished Guests," a cup of coffee costs £217. The extra special brew is made from Blue Mountain beans and Evison water flown in from France. It is poured from a gold pot into Royal Minton porcelain cups, and topped off with a sprinkling of gold powder. And already the wait-

ing list is a week long—but that is because only four customers are served at one time, in a room described by the management as "patented after the residence of the British Royal family."

## Schneider's art

Corporate financiers at the merchant bank Rea Brothers will have been more interested than most in the two acquisitions and the £5.6 million rights issue unveiled by Bullers, the fine art and sculpture foundry group. For it represents the first strategic move by chartered accountant Brian Schneider, aged 34, chief executive at Bullers since last June—and previously head of corporate finance at Rea. The two deals, which mean that the company—which cast the scales of justice at the Central Criminal Court—is now one of the largest art foundry businesses in the world.



# Fish on the wing

Torquil Norman, the chairman of Bluebird Toys, was in Wiltshire on Saturday when he decided to pop over to Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, to buy some fish and chips. It took 25 minutes. For, as a means of transportation, Norman was able to choose from one of three aeroplanes—a fourth, also owned by him, is not yet airworthy. "I'd been promising to take a friend for a ride for ages—and the fish and chips were wonderful," said Norman yesterday, over a more sophisticated meal at London's Howard Hotel. He also reports the market for vintage planes is booming. "Mine have probably doubled in value in the past four years."

His collection comprises a 1940 Tiger Moth, a 1934 De Havilland Leopard Moth, a 1936 De Havilland Dragonfly and a 1977 Cessna 180. "They all need to be used regularly," says Norman, who has clearly inherited his love of flying. His father was an architect who specialized in designing aerodromes until he was killed in a plane crash in Africa 47 years ago. He also started his own charter airline, Airwork, which became part of British Caledonian. "And my brother, Desmond, started up the company which makes Islanders, Britten-Norman, since taken over by the Swiss company Pilatus," says Norman.

● A column in *The Teller*, a Delaware trust company's staff newspaper, is devoted to announcements of employees' marriages and births. Its title—Mergers and Dividends.

Carol Leonard

# CNT

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Index	Value	chg (%)	chg (%)	chg (%)	chg (%)	chg (%)	chg (%)
The World	791.0	0.4	20.6	0.7	17.5	0.2	8.4
(free)	151.2	0.4	20.5	0.7	17.5	0.2	8.4
EAPE	1454.4	0.6	14.3	0.7	15.0	0.4	3.6
(free)	148.6	0.6	14.1	0.6	14.9	0.5	3.4
Europe	730.0	-0.5	34.9	-0.3	25.1	-0.7	22.3
(free)	156.8	-0.5	35.4	-0.6	25.3	-0.7	22.8
Nth America	508.5	0.0	34.0	-0.2	21.4	-0.2	21.5
Nordic	1530.2	-0.7	41.0	-0.4	27.9	-0.8	27.8
(free)	233.7	-0.4	55.0	-0.1	39.8	-0.5	40.8
Pacific	3645.1	1.3	5.0	1.3	10.3	1.1	4.6
Far East	5298.9	1.3	4.5	1.4	10.2	1.1	-5.2
Australia	348.1	0.4	18.9	0.0	15.9	0.3	7.8
Austria	1545.3	-0.1	149.8	-0.3	119.1	-0.3	126.3
Belgium	954.7	-0.3	23.8	-0.2	7.9	-0.5	12.1
Canada	561.2	-0.4	27.2	-0.5	14.2	-0.6	15.3
Denmark	1289.0	0.3	57.2	0.0	38.3	-0.5	42.6
Finland	114.8	0.9	-1.1	1.0	-13.0	0.7	-10.3
(free)	151.5	1.4	26.8	1.0	11.5	1.3	14.9
France	755.4	-0.6	40.5	-0.3	22.9	-0.8	27.8
Germany	889.7	-0.3	56.4	0.1	37.5	-0.4	41.4
Hong Kong	2127.4	0.0	11.1	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	0.8
Italy	379.0	0.1	29.3	0.5	14.7	0.1	17.9
Japan	5635.9	1.4	3.8	1.4	10.0	1.2	-5.9
Netherlands	873.1	-0.4	35.0	0.1	19.4	-0.5	23.3
New Zealand	102.9	-0.3	20.3	0.0	12.1	-0.5	9.1
Norway	1417.4	1.1	70.2	1.2	55.3	1.0	54.3
(free)	243.7	1.1	68.3	1.2	53.8	1.0	52.6
Singapore/Malay	1617.1	0.1	59.0	0.1	39.2	0.1	44.1
Spain	218.1	-0.1	9.9	0.0	-2.1	-0.3	-0.3
(free)	238.7	-1.5	40.4	-1.2	29.8	-1.7	27.3
Sweden	2070.0	-1.2	50.5	-1.0	39.1	-1.4	36.5
(free)	238.7	-0.7	36.3	-0.1	25.7	-0.9	23.6
Switzerland	893.5	-0.7	36.5	-0.1	27.7	-0.8	25.6
(free)	137.3	-0.7	36.5	-0.1	27.7	-0.8	25.6
UK	890.8	-0.7	36.5	-0.1	27.7	-0.8	25.6
USA	457.1	0.0	34.6	-0.1	22.6	-0.9	14.7
Local currency							



# Heavy falls

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

[illegible][illegible]

Algeria	180	810	0	20	2	25	1
Algeria	80	87	0	3	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
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Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	0
Algeria	115	175	0	10	0	0	

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Household Consumption	423	428	-0.4	6.4	15.1
Government Consumption	10	8	-20	0	128
Non-durable Goods	10	8	-20	0	128
Capital Goods	275	280	-10	2.3	10
Non-durable Goods	100	119	19	18	247
Capital Goods	200	161	-19	37	8
Household Consumption	200	207	-3.5	3.5	2.5
Government Consumption	200	207	-3.5	3.5	2.5
Non-durable Goods	200	207	-3.5	3.5	2.5
Capital Goods	200	207	-3.5	3.5	2.5
Household Consumption	162	163	-0.6	3.3	19.0
Government Consumption	162	163	-0.6	3.3	19.0
Non-durable Goods	162	163	-0.6	3.3	19.0
Capital Goods	162	163	-0.6	3.3	19.0
Household Consumption	122	125	-2.4	6.9	7.3
Government Consumption	122	125	-2.4	6.9	7.3
Non-durable Goods	122	125	-2.4	6.9	7.3
Capital Goods	122	125	-2.4	6.9	7.3
Household Consumption	501	507	-1.2	2.9	4.5
Government Consumption	501	507	-1.2	2.9	4.5
Non-durable Goods	501	507	-1.2	2.9	4.5
Capital Goods	501	507	-1.2	2.9	4.5
Household Consumption	168	170	-1.2	2.1	4.3
Government Consumption	168	170	-1.2	2.1	4.3
Non-durable Goods	168	170	-1.2	2.1	4.3
Capital Goods	168	170	-1.2	2.1	4.3
Household Consumption	81	80	1.0	4.7	6.6
Government Consumption	81	80	1.0	4.7	6.6
Non-durable Goods	81	80	1.0	4.7	6.6
Capital Goods	81	80	1.0	4.7	6.6

[illegible][illegible]

Imported Vehicles	190	430		160	34	12.9
Domestic Vehicles	230	230		111	3	18.3
Small Trucks	240	250	+1	64	48	16.9
Medium Trucks						
Heavy Trucks						
Shops						
<b>SHOPS</b>						
Automotive	12	78		28	2	11.3
Automotive Parts	127	168	-2	137	28	
Auto Garage	127	145	-8	91	5	
Auto Wash	118	118		64	3	25.4
Car Wash & Detail	230	110	-6	93	31	27.6
Car Wash						
<b>TEXTILES</b>						
Textile	24	57				
Textile Mill	260	363		145	40	12.5
Textile Mill (Other)	265	205	+2	101	42	26.6
Textile Mill (Other)	265	205		101	42	26.6
Textile Mill (Other)	265	205		101	42	26.6

[illegible]

TOBACCOS						
1 (avg)	815	820	• 6	400	49	107
100 Cans	815	110				
Charges B	825	830	• 6	164	26	175

WATER						
Angler Water	166	169	-1	204	122	41
Angler Water	173	177	-4	218	127	24
Swamp Water	129	141	-12	198	161	36
Swamp Water	133	141	-8	200	161	38
Swamp Water	139	141	-2	200	161	38
Swamp Water	152	169	-2	174	104	27
Swamp Water	152	169	-17	188	137	27
Swamp Water	180	184	-4	204	134	28

Minima Value	192	157	+1	203	123	34
Maximum Value	170	173	+2	286	126	36
Average Est	-£12					
<p>Send an £500 Forecast dividend e term          in success (Price in suspending a dividend          a special payment to Pre-merger figures in          earnings) e other £5 rights £5 send of          1 Tax-free .. No significant data</p>						







# The battle to move into Europe

The Turks realize they will have an uphill struggle to join the European Community, but their determination is as strong as ever. Even the main political opposition parties are in favour, Peter Strafford writes

Turkey has finally had a first response to its application to become a full member of the European Community, made in 1987. In an "opinion" delivered to the Community's Council of Ministers last month, the Commission said Turkey was eligible to join, but it advised firmly against opening negotiations before 1993 and did not suggest a date on which they should start.

It proposed only that there should be closer co-operation between the Community and Turkey in a number of areas, including financial help, industrial and technological co-operation, and further political and cultural links.

This qualified, but essentially negative, reply came as no surprise to those in Ankara who knew the views in Brussels and the Community capitals. But it fell short of their hopes and has been seen by many commentators as a slap in the face.

For President Turgut Özal and the government, who have made full membership of the Community a fundamental policy objective, it was an embarrassment. They are making it clear, however, that they will continue to press their case. Professor Ali Bozer, the deputy prime minister, who has responsibility for relations with the Community, told me he is urging the Council of Ministers, when it considers the Commission's report, to propose a specific date for the opening of negotiations; or failing that, to undertake to open them as soon as possible after 1993.

The Council should make a commitment in principle to Turkey's eventual membership, he said. Turkish membership would benefit not just Turkey but the Community too, and the Council should "clearly demonstrate the political will for Turkish entry to the European Community". He welcomed the proposals for closer co-operation but said they should

be seen as paving the way for full membership, and not as an alternative to it.

It looks as if it will be a long and uphill struggle. In its report, the Commission gave a number of reasons for its conclusions. A principal one is the Community's need to sort out its own affairs as it works for a single market in 1992, without considering further enlargement. But the Commission made clear that it saw several substantial objections to Turkey becoming a full member now, and made no commitment to eventual membership.

The objections were partly economic, because of the wide gap between living standards in Turkey and the Community as a whole, and partly political — the Commission suggesting that more should be done to improve Turkey's parliamentary system and respect for human rights.

In addition, it pointed to the differences between Turkey and Greece, a Community member, and the situation in Cyprus as standing in the way of Turkish membership.

Although diplomatic, the language was clear. The Commission's view is that a great deal has to change before the Community can seriously consider admitting Turkey. On the economic front alone the differences are huge. The report finds, for instance, that, whereas among the 12 as a whole there are 327 cars per 1,000 inhabitants, in Turkey there are only 19; that for telephones the figures are 466 and 45 respectively; and for doctors, 2.5 and 0.7. In the Community countries 10.4 million people work in agriculture, while in Turkey alone the figure is 15.2 million, or 37 per cent of the work-force.

Another factor is the events in Eastern Europe. The Turks are uncomfortably aware that developments there have priority in



Turkey goes to work: the early morning crowds on their way to office and factory reflect the country's resolve to be accepted in a wider Europe

Brussels, and that their own approach will be given less attention as the Community works out its response to the changes in Europe. The apparent weakening of the Soviet military threat could also reduce Turkey's strategic value to Western Europe.

Ankara is preparing, therefore, for a long campaign. Full membership is seen as an important means of modernizing the country, and the logical culmination of a process that began in the last century, as the Turkish ruling class has increasingly identified itself with Europe. Turkey is a member of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and in 1963 it signed the Treaty of Ankara, which made it an associate member of the Community and provided for full membership in the long run.

Significantly, the campaign has the backing of the two main opposition parties. Süleyman Demirel, the leader of the True Path Party, and Deniz Baykal, secretary general of the Social Democrat and Populist Party,

both told me they back the Turkish application, and their reactions to the Commission's report were similar to those of the government. Only the small Muslim fundamentalist party is opposed to the application.

There are positive points for Turkey in the report. Bozer points to the fact that it found Turkey eligible to become a full member —

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## 'Closer co-operation should be seen as paving the way for full membership of the Community'

which disposes of objections that it is geographically largely outside Europe, and that as an overwhelmingly Muslim country it has no place in the Community. He sees the proposals for closer links between the Community and Turkey as a step in the right direction. Nor, in general, do the Turks find much to quarrel with in the Commission's analysis of their

it did, for instance, for Portugal. The Commission points out that Turkish entry would place a heavy burden on Community funds. The Turks consider that the Community should make a commitment to Turkish membership in the long term, which would help to reduce the differences.

In the political area, too, Turkey concedes that there is room for

improvement in its democratic processes and its handling of human rights. Steps are being taken to improve its record in both areas, it is emphasized.

There are, however, two parts of the Commission's report to which the Turks take vigorous exception. One is the reference to Turkish-Greek differences and to Cyprus, and the implication that Turkish entry will be subject to resolution of those differences, with all the diplomatic leverage that that would give to Greece.

This, the Turks maintain, is unfair to Turkey. They point out that in 1976, when both Turkey and Greece were associate members and the Commission made a similar report on the Greek application to become a full member, it said that the Community should not become a party to the disputes between Greece and Turkey, and that a decision on Greek membership should not depend on their resolution.

The Turks are resentful that, even though their country is an associate member, Greece has been allowed by the other 11 to

block measures of financial assistance. Promises not to tolerate this state of affairs have not been fulfilled, and as long as they are outside the Turks see themselves as permanently subject to a Greek veto.

The other "black point", as it is described, touches on the acutely sensitive subject of the Kurds. The Commission's report refers unmistakably to this when it talks of greater respect for the identity of minorities, but there is strong resistance in Ankara to the idea that the Kurds should be given minority status.

In recent years there has been some significant movement towards official acknowledgement of a Kurdish-speaking community. But the Kurdish problem continues to be seen in the light of the terrorist campaign by the Marxist-Leninist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), with its bases in Syria and its aim of separation; and there is a refusal to concede anything that might lead in that direction.

Underlying all this is the question of how Turkey might react if it believed it was being consistently rebuffed by the Community. It is an important regional power whose economy has grown significantly in recent years. It also has a key strategic position, placed between Europe, the Soviet Union and the Middle East, and is a valuable member of Nato. Might it turn elsewhere?

This is a prospect that has been held out as Turkey has pressed its case for Community membership, and ministers have revised it since the completion of the Commission's report. Bozer told me that Turkey wanted to play a constructive role within the Community, but that if it was not accepted, "the new shape of Europe can offer Turkey several alternative options".

What is certain is that a perceived rebuff will be felt as a blow to the modernizing and liberalizing elements in Turkish society, and can only be welcomed by the small, but increasingly vocal, body of Muslim fundamentalists. It could lead, at the least, to a difficult and uncooperative stance.

With borders in the west with Greece and Bulgaria, and in the east with Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq and Syria, Turkey is at the heart of a sensitive region. The Community, preoccupied though it is with Eastern Europe, should not ignore it.



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# The promise of a return to growth

Exports, tourism, workers' earnings abroad and farm production are listed by Andrew Mango as important contributions to an improving economy

Politicians changed places in Turkey last year, while the economy stood still. This year the reverse is likely, as the politicians stay put and the economy picks up after a difficult patch.

The last year of the boom engineered by Turgut Ozal during his time as prime minister was 1987. In 1988, the growth of the economy dropped from 7.4 to 3.4 per cent. Last year was even worse. It is still not clear whether growth was nearer 1 or 2 per cent. In any case, it was lower than the 2.5 per cent annual increase of the country's population, now estimated at 55 million.

And while economic growth dropped, prices rose. Consumer prices increased by 39 per cent in 1987, by 75 per cent in 1988, and by 70 per cent in 1989.

There is a brighter side to the picture, even if it brings no immediate comfort to the average Turk. Exports and revenue from tourism have increased steadily through the past decade. The effect on the balance of payments was seen in 1988, when the external current account swung from a

deficit of \$980 million into a surplus of \$1.5 billion.

A surplus is also expected to be shown for 1989, even though figures for the first 10 months of the year show a slight decline in exports, and a considerable increase in imports. The consequent growth of the trade deficit by 43 per cent to \$3.6 billion for the 10 months is worrying.

But a wider gap had been feared. The reasons were that direct subsidies to exporters were stopped, to be replaced by access to cheaper credit, that the government curtailed credits to Iraq, which had been a good customer but a bad payer, that import duties were reduced, that the Turkish lira appreciated in real terms, dropping only 27 per cent against the American dollar while Turkish prices increased by 70 per cent, and, above all, that the country suffered the worst drought for many years.

An expected improvement in farming is one reason for optimism. Another is the revenue from tourism and the remittances of Turkish workers abroad. Despite gloomy predictions, foreign visitors earned Turkey an estimated \$2.6 billion last year, \$300

million more than in the previous record year of 1988.

Last year's slight drop in inflation was achieved even though salary rises in the public sector exceeded 140 per cent, proving that wages are a much lower component of costs in Turkey than in more prosperous countries. This year started with a 25 per cent half-yearly increase in civil service pay.

If winter austerity is not followed by capitalisation in the summer, the drop in inflation should accelerate considerably — perhaps to the 54 per cent projected by the state planning organization. And the fact that there are no elections scheduled this year should help the government to brave temporary unpopularity.

Faced with a shortage of domestic investment funds and with the need to safeguard the balance of payments, the government has been doing its best to attract foreign capital. Foreign investment permits have climbed from \$103 million in 1983, before Ozal took over, to \$824.5 million in 1988, and a record of \$1.47 billion last year.

But the sums actually remitted are much smaller, and



Get weaving: textile plant workers in Bursa, a thriving industrialized city in western Turkey

amounted to only \$885 million in the years 1983-1988. It is a disappointing total for a country of Turkey's size. In spite of vociferous opposition protests, the government is now trying to involve foreign capital in its privatization programme.

The tradition of economic nationalism is strong in Turkey, and goes back to the practice of Kemal Ataturk, founder of the republic. But difficult as it has been to reverse it, the Motherland Party governments have made good progress towards their aim of integrating Turkey into the world free-market system. The application for full membership of the European Community has been part of

the process. And while the European Commission has now recommended that negotiations on it should not begin before 1993, it has also drawn attention to the existing commitment under the Treaty of Association to establish a full customs union in 1995. This would imply a relaxation of restrictions on the import of Turkish textiles and farm produce into the Community.

The West and, increasingly, Japan are Turkey's main trading partners and sources of investment, tourism and remittance revenue. But the Soviet Union's importance will increase as the conversion of Ankara and Istanbul to Soviet

Industry's links with the EC and British trade and investment are increasing year by year

Industrialists in Turkey, hungry as they have been for their country to become a full part of the European Community with its trading opportunities, have long tended to be philosophical about how long the entry process might take.

Now that an early acceptance into the Community has been denied to Turkey, even though it has been an associate member of the European club since 1963, it is another surprise to Turkish business men.

The Commission advised the member governments against starting negotiations on Turkey's application for membership until the single market was established. But it recommended strengthening the treaty of association with Turkey to improve co-operation with the Community through a common union and a gradual converging of the widely different economies.

A common forecast in Turkey's business community has been that it will be the turn of the century that will see the country becoming a fully-fledged member because, despite progressive changes seen in Turkey, more still has to be

done to turn a largely agriculture-based economy into an industrialized one with an infrastructure capable of servicing it efficiently.

The worry for Turkish industry is that just as foreign investment has been building up in healthy fashion, Western money could start going more into Eastern bloc industrial expansion. Foreign investment partnerships for Turkish enterprises provide a far better way of raising cash for development than borrowing internationally at punitive interest rates fuelled by high inflation.

There has always been talk of Turkey, with its Islamic background, becoming part of an Asian economic group if its ambitions to be entirely European are frustrated, and with so much in the melting pot in this part of Europe and the Middle East nobody can be sure that this may not happen.

At the same time trade has been burgeoning with the Soviet Union. This is because supplies of Soviet gas have stimulated Turkish involvement with its large neighbour, ranging from extensive construction projects within the country to building ships to Soviet order.

Yet the Europeanization of Turkey has seemed for several decades now such an ineluctable process that it is hard to see it slowing to any marked degree, let alone being radically reversed. The European presence in Turkey is substantial, and the country's trading links with Europe, especially Britain, have been growing strongly.

Britain is a leading investor in Turkey. During 1988, thirty-six British companies sought approval for investments totalling about \$41 million and a further 21 applied for another \$55 million of increases in their capital or partially investment in Turkey. At the end of 1988 there were 85 British investments out of 1,109 registered foreign investments.

Derek Harris

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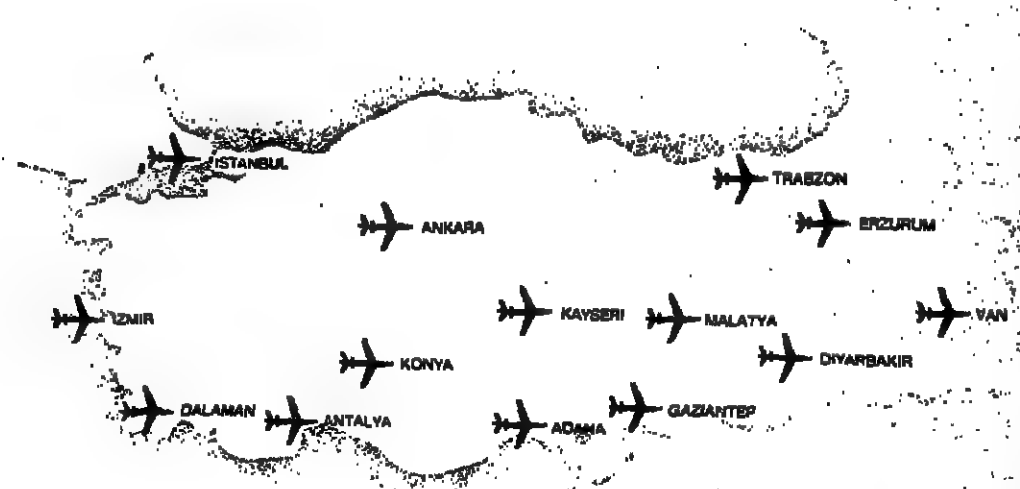
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TURKEY AND THE EC/3

## City that mirrors progress

Izmir, the third largest city in Turkey, the second most important industrial centre, and a port whose origins go far back into history, is a striking example of the changes that have taken place across the country in recent years (Peter Strafford writes). In 1965 it had a population of just over 400,000. Today, according to Yüksel Cakmur, the mayor of greater Izmir, the central city alone has two million, and it is growing by 7 per cent a year.

This increase is largely accounted for by immigration from the rural areas of central and eastern Anatolia. Most of the immigrants have settled into makeshift homes, known as *gecekondu*, on the outskirts of the city, and their numbers mean that the main problems Cakmur faces are to do with the urban infrastructure.

One of the biggest projects, under way now for just over a year, is to clean the waters of Izmir Bay, which is badly polluted.

Cakmur's main difficulty, he told me, was political. He is a member of one of the main opposition parties, the Social Democratic Populist Party, and when he defeated the candidate of the ruling Motherland Party in last year's municipal election, the government vowed to restrict his spending.

Izmir and the Aegean region are among the most prosperous parts of Turkey. Izmir, the ancient Smyrna, has long been the gateway through which goods were exported from Anatolia to Western Europe, as well as the other way round, and it has a long tradition of contacts with the West.

The economic backbone of the region is its agriculture, based on rich soil and a mild climate. But in recent years, as Turkey has modernized its economy, and concentrated on increasing its exports, it has also become an important industrial centre. And there has been a further bonus from its position in the middle of the Aegean coast, which has made it a base for tourists.

Habit Şarık, president of the Aegean chamber of commerce, talks of a wide, and growing, range of industries, from textiles to electronics.

Textiles, in particular, were doing well, he said. But the region no longer concentrated solely on them and industries related to food and drink. Its products now included chemicals, petroleum products, motor parts, electrical machinery, video-cassettes, and even iron and steel.

There were several sectors, such as textiles and glass, in which Turkey was selling successfully to the European Community, and that showed that Turkish industry could compete.

Andrew Mango describes the strength of a new democracy

## The firm line holds against raised voices

Last November Turgut Özal, Turkey's conservative prime minister, became the first civilian to be elected president since the military coup of 1960. Democracy, he declared, had finally taken root in the country.

The opposition disagreed. Both Professor Erdal İnönü, leader of the Social Democratic and Populist Party (SDP), the main opposition group, and Süleyman Demirel, the former prime minister who was ousted by the military in 1980 and who now, as leader of the True Path Party (DYP), is Özal's conservative rival, argued that Özal could not embody the unity of the nation.

He was the leader of the ruling Motherland Party (ANAP), they pointed out, which had come a disastrous third in the local elections last March, when its share of the total vote amounted to only 22 per cent.

And although the party had an absolute majority of seats in parliament, and had therefore been able to elect the president of its choice, that majority was deceptive. Even in the 1987 general election it had won only 36 per cent of the total poll.

Fortified by these arguments, the opposition boycotted the presidential election and has had no dealings with President Özal since.

Their stand was strengthened by the belief that the new dispensation was temporary — that the government of Yildirim Akbulut, chosen by Özal as his successor, would fall prey to dissension within the ruling party, that a general election, due by November 1992, would have to be advanced, and that Özal would then have to vacate the presidential palace.

Does this mean that political stability, which the military sought to promote with a new constitutional settlement after the 1980 coup, is to prove short-lived? Business circles do not think so. After dropping slightly during the transition, the Istanbul stock exchange has resumed its dizzy rise. The Turkish lira is continuing to appreciate in real terms against the American dollar.

Nor, in spite of a threat by Demirel to mobilize people power against a parliament that he considers unrepresentative, are there any signs that the contract between the excitement of politicians and the apathy of the public is about to end.

Akbulut, chosen to be prime minister on the day Özal was elected president, was speaker of parliament, and a former provincial lawyer, who

had made a name for himself as a skilful conciliator but had been considered by nobody as a potential prime minister.

As he came into office, all the departmental ministers in the previous administration kept their jobs, but the cabinet was enlarged by the appointment of important faction leaders in the Motherland Party as ministers of state.

One of them was Mehmet Kocçiler, usually described as leader of the religious faction. His entry into the government had previously been blocked by Kenan Evren, the retired

factors that have governed Turkish politics since its first genuinely free parliamentary election, held in 1950.

They are that the right has a permanent majority of between 55 and 65 per cent and that the centre-right and the centre-left between them account for 85 to 90 per cent.

Both these broad camps are divided, largely on personal lines — the centre-right between Özal (and his nominee, Akbulut) and Demirel, and the centre-left between İnönü and Bülent Ecevit, another former prime minister.

There are other new splits. On the right Bedrettin Dalan, the former mayor of Istanbul, has resigned from the Motherland Party and is endeavouring to form a Democratic Centre Party in opposition to it. However, as members of parliament do not wish to vote themselves out of a job, he has found no recruits among the parliamentary majority.

On the left, İnönü's problems are more serious. Defections and expulsions have reduced his parliamentary strength from 99 to 81. His refusal to accommodate either Kurdish nationalist sentiment or the Marxist left may pay off in the future, but is diminishing his constituency at present. At the same time, disillusionment has set in with the performance of newly elected Social Democratic mayors.

The public are watching the political manoeuvres with considerable detachment. They have troubles aplenty with rising prices, with more serious entrants into the labour market than new jobs, and with inadequate provision for health and education. The vote against Özal in last year's local elections expressed disappointment at his failure to fulfil expectations of a richer life.

But few believe that a different political leadership would achieve faster progress towards the Western European standard of living, which is the aim of most Turks, whatever their political persuasion of religious sentiment.

At the same time the present government also benefits both from the fear of instability bequeathed by the troubled 1970s, and from the widespread acceptance of the free-market policies that it preaches.

Above all, Turks have plenty of room to make the best of prevailing material circumstances. This feeling that they live in a free (albeit, for most, a poor) country is the best guarantee of continued political stability.



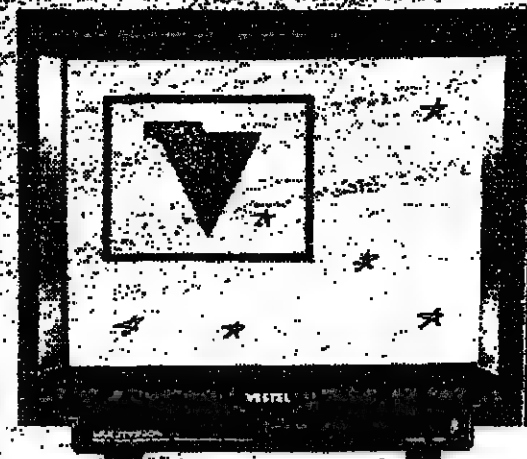
For freedom: Özal tells his people democracy has finally taken root

general and outgoing president, and is deeply resented by Turkey's secularist establishment.

But Akbulut has survived the first two big tests. He won an easy victory over Hasan Celal Güzel, a former minister of education, in a contest for the leadership of the Motherland Party, and in the budget debates in parliament, Güzel's revolt fizzled out, and the budget was passed by the united vote of the ruling party.

Granted that political storms can blow up suddenly, the calendar is clear of any foreseeable dangers.

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Turkey

CISH AIRLINES



The homeless fleeing persecution in neighbouring Iraq and Bulgaria are bringing problems for Turkey, Raşit Gürdilek reports



The Kurds (left) and the Bulgarian Turks (right) live in cities of tents, where sickness flourishes and where the common denominator is poverty. The guerrilla fighters, from the mountains of Iraq, are used to the hardships but many Turks are returning to Bulgaria

**T**he man shrinks. Perhaps for the first time, he is acutely uncomfortable in his khaki shirt and baggy trousers, which give him away as a *peshmerga*, or Kurdish fighter, one of those who have crossed the border from Iraq to take refuge in Turkey.

But he correctly judges the stranger's friendly intent, and his hand instinctively reaches out. He gives an embarrassed smile as, instead of the well-worn Kalashnikov, he clutches a knitted toy. But the encounter with the Press attracts a crowd, which, in turn, draws the secret police, and a nervous jeweller shoos him away from his shop-front.

There are fellow ex-fighters hawking cheap sweaters across the street, and they present a sorry sight in the bustle of Diyarbakir — so different from their former mountain strongholds — although language is no barrier in this south-eastern corner of Turkey.

The Kurds are not the only misfits in Turkey these days. There are others in Istanbul, Ankara or Bursa, where a woman swallows her pride to rejoice over a cleaning job, and her husband, the old Fiat sold long ago, pleads to be accepted by the local drivers.

These are the ethnic Turks from Bulgaria, the second recent influx into Turkey, who arrived in the "motherland" to tearful scenes, but whose euphoria has now subsided. They have to weigh an uncertain future for themselves against certain humiliation if they go back to Bulgaria.

The two groups have little in common. One was born into the life of the fighter, the other into a quiet life as a farmer, semi-skilled

worker or artisan. The first was accustomed to abject poverty, the second to relative wealth and the trappings of urban life. But both are now forgotten refugees, eclipsed when the earthquake in Eastern Europe set off new migrations far more important for the West.

It was the Kurds who came first. More than 50,000 of them fled Iraq's vengeance after their Iranian allies had thrown in the towel in the Gulf war in the summer of 1988. Hard put to cope with an armed insurgency among its own Kurds, Turkey hesitated at first to open the border. But the political and economic risks were overruled as world opinion focused on the alleged use of chemical weapons by the Iraqis.

In its expectations of international good marks, however, Ankara was disappointed. Not only did world interest evaporate with the Kurds' reprieve, but what was left of it turned critically to how they were being taken care of. Ankara was understandably pleased when about 15,000 went on to Iran and 5,000 eventually returned to Iraq to enjoy amnesty, still leaving 30,000 in Turkey.

Of those remaining, only about a third are spending their second winter in tents, near the relative warmth of Mardin. The rest are divided into housing complexes in Muş and Diyarbakir, where they are allowed to supplement their free meals and "tobacco money" with small-scale trading.

For Turkish officials, the maintenance of good ties with Baghdad, needed in the fight against the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) insurgents, requires the prevention of forays across the border by *peshmergas*, who have evidently been hoping for such a free hand against Iraq. The message was clear from the start: "If you want to fight, go. But if you will stay, then behave."

Ankara also feels the need to deny refugee status, with the attendant rights and liberties, to the "northern Iraqis", fearing it would fuel separatist tendencies within its own large Kurdish community —

who number nine million, or a sixth of the total population, but are not recognized as an ethnically distinct minority.

Understandably, Turkey opposes the idea of letting a combat-tested army of guerrillas go free in its south-eastern provinces, where the government troops have been fighting the less numerous PKK rebels for more than five years.

So assimilation is seen as the solution. Turkish officials have turned down repeated requests for the schooling of the *peshmerga* children in Kurdish and offered instead classes in Turkish. But hopes remain that the Kurdish refugees can be persuaded to drop their hostility to Iraq, and allow Turkey to draw a sigh of relief.

For, despite its attraction, assimilation has become undefeatable, at least openly, since the foreign word entered the Turkish language in a quite different context. There it denoted the oppression suffered by another group of refugees, the Bulgarian Turks, who started to pour across the border a year after the Kurds.

Throughout last summer they came in from Bulgaria, fleeing a five-year campaign of forced assimilation. Before Turkey closed the border in September, fearing that Sofia would send all 1.5 million, 320,000 had come.

In the end, both sides accepted Kuwait's mediation. The first round of talks, held in October, was unproductive, but the toppling of the hard-line regime of Todor Zhivkov in Bulgaria and the subsequent restoration of the Turks' rights paved the way for a meeting of foreign ministers this month, and progress was announced. But the refugees remain

**N**ot many foreign tourists stop in Ankara, Turkey's businesslike capital high up on the Anatolian plateau (Peter Strafford writes). They go for the beaches and the best-known classical sites, which are mainly by the coast. Ankara's few Roman remains — a column in honour of Julian the Apostate, a temple dedicated to Augustus and Peace, some baths — though evocative of its days as a provincial centre, hardly compete.

But the capital is a good base for anyone interested in a shadowy and, in their day, important people, the Hittites. In the middle of the second millennium BC, the Hittites were a great power in the ancient world. Their rule extended over much of Anatolia and down into what are now Syria and Iraq; in about 1286 BC, at the battle of Qadesh, they defeated the Egyptian pharaoh, Ramses II.

## An ancient world far from the beaches

The Hittites were once a formidable power. Turkey's desolate interior reveals their strange kings and deities

The remains of the Hittite capital, Hattusas, are 130 miles to the east, and Ankara itself is the site of the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, which has a collection of exhibits spanning thousands of years. These range from wall-paintings and little statues of fertility goddesses of the sixth millennium BC, to the more familiar products of the Roman Empire, and they include Hittite stone carvings and ceramics.

When I set off for Hattusas earlier this month, central Anatolia was under snow. The road is good, but the bare, rolling hills, their contours softened by the snow, emphasized how strange it was that such an important empire

should have had its heart in such a desolate region.

Then, it is thought, the hills were covered with trees — before shipbuilders, goats and other predators got at them. Today, the massive walls of Hattusas, and the ruins of the palace inhabited by kings with such names as Hattusilis, Suppiluliumas and Tudhaliyas, sprawl down a bare, uneven hillside dotted with outcrops of rock. A river gorge runs down each side, and the little village of

Bogazkale lies at its foot. The foundations of numerous temples have been found, but the imposing character of ancient Hattusas is best conveyed by the remains of its gates. One has a carving in high relief of a warrior, another two large sculptures of the heads, manes and front legs of lions, a third two carvings, badly worn, of sphinxes.

Near by, across one of the gorges, is the most graphic memorial of all. Yazilikaya is a

cluster of huge rocks that must have been a holy place for the Hittite kings, and on their sides there are still the carvings in relief which they had made of gods, goddesses and kings.

In the big chamber, a long procession of gods and goddesses converges on a ritual meeting between the most important god and goddess, appropriately much bigger than the others. In the smaller, there is another line of 12 small gods marching purposefully

forward, a relief of King Tudhaliyas in the embrace of a deity, and a bigger god in the form of a sword.

Little is known about the rituals performed at Yazilikaya. Nor, until earlier this century, was much known about the Hittites themselves.

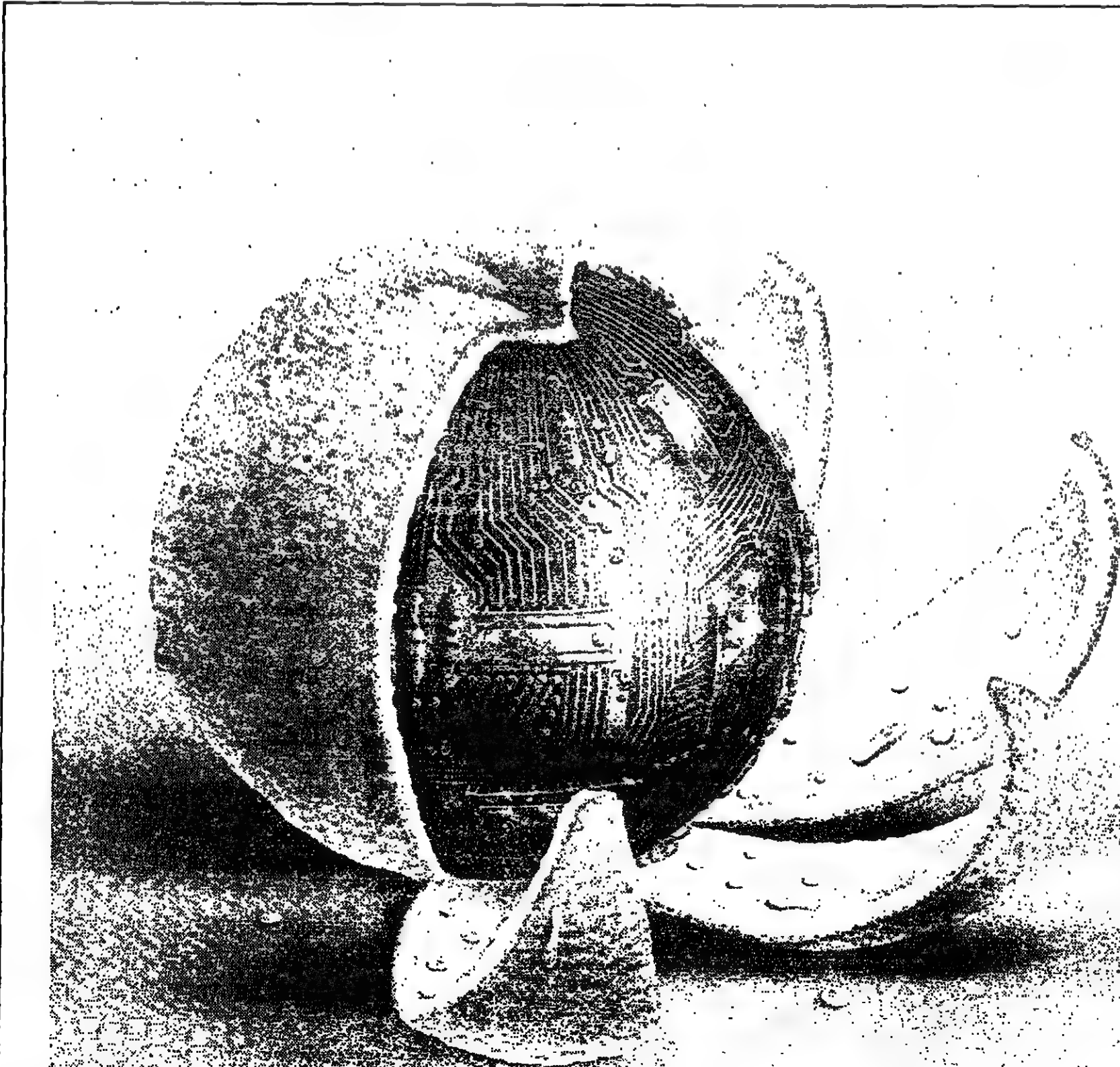
After the sacking of Hattusas about 1180 BC, some of them re-established themselves in various centres to the south-east, including Carthage, where they were eventually overwhelmed by the Assyrians and vanished almost completely from history — apart from references in the Bible.

They began to re-emerge only at the beginning of this century, when the ruins of Hattusas were exten-

sively excavated by German archaeologists, and many clay tablets, covered in a cuneiform script, were discovered. The language, an early Indo-European one, was deciphered, revealing the Hittites' diplomatic correspondence.

It is now thought that they first emerged as a force around 1650 BC, the start of the Old Kingdom, and that they became an important power about 200 years later, when the Hittite Empire began. There are those who believe they had contacts with the rising power of Mycenaean Greece, particularly around the time of the Trojan War.

But there is no doubt that Hattusilis, Suppiluliumas, Tudhaliyas and others were important men in their day. The widespread site of Hattusas, and the carved stone reliefs and lioness vases in the Ankara museum, are their memorial.



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For further details please contact Patrick Alford on (0273) 571490 (Day) or (0959) 77633 (Evenings and Weekends). Fax (0273) 571495.

Aqua House, 24 Old Steine, Brighton,  
East Sussex BN1 1EL.

**BADENOCH & CLARK**  
recruitment specialists

## EMPLOYMENT LAWYER

We are looking for an able and ambitious young lawyer who will specialise in employment and labour law.

Applicants should have been qualified for at least two years, and have experience of the subject. Other requirements include a sound academic record combined with a practical approach and an ability to communicate effectively with clients and colleagues.

We are offering a highly competitive salary and the potential for career development in a challenging and fast-growing environment.

Please write in confidence with a full curriculum vitae, to David Mackie, Allen & Overy, 9 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6AD.

**ALLEN & OVERY**

## LESTER ALDRIDGE

Lester Aldridge is one of the largest firms of solicitors in the South of England. It is the result of the merger in 1988 of Lester & Russell and Mooring Aldridge. The firm provides a wide range of commercial and personal legal services from its six offices in Bournemouth and the surrounding area.

### DIRECTOR OF STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

In response to this rapid growth, with the help of outside consultants, we are now implementing a more rational management structure designed to free partners from heavy involvement in day to day management of the firm. An important key to the success of these developments will be the appointment of a Director of Staff and Administration, to be responsible for all aspects of the firm's administration (other than finance) and staff management. Based in our Bournemouth office, the Director will report to the firm's Senior Partner.

This challenging position requires someone possessing the ability to communicate effectively and to motivate people at all levels, and highly developed administrative skills. Previous experience in a legal environment would be an advantage.

A generous remuneration package will be offered, reflecting the importance we attach to this new position.

Please write with full career details to: The David Andrews Partnership, 117 Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0DT.

## MORRISONS

### Early Partnership with Surrey Solicitors

We are a long-established and successful firm of Solicitors with five partners in two offices in Reigate and Redhill. Our current expansion is based on a high level of care and an ability to provide a wide range of professional services to both private and commercial clients.

### PROBATE AND NON-CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS

You have been qualified about five years and are ready, after a short probationary period, to lead a flourishing non-contentious team dealing with probate and related conveyancing, wills, trusts, tax-planning and financial services. This is a challenging opportunity for a person of partnership calibre to join a highly motivated team. The initial remuneration package will be about £25,000 pa. with early partnership prospects.

Please write with full career details to:  
Michael Hayes, Morrisons, 39-43 Station Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1QL

## LAW COMMISSION

Are you interested in law reform? The Law Commission needs several Research Assistants to work on a variety of projects in the fields of Common Law, Crime, Family Law and Property Law. These are responsible posts, the holders of which will be closely involved in all stages of the Commission's law reform work.

The appointment will be for eleven months initially, with the possibility of longer contracts in some cases starting in September. The salary will be at the rate of £10,323 per annum (including Inner London weighting).

Applicants should have, or expect to gain this year, a law degree of at least upper second class. Further details and application forms are available from:

Louise Collet, The Law Commission, Conquest House, 37/38 John Street, Theobalds Road, London WC1N 2BQ.  
Tel: 01 242 0861 ext. 210.  
Closing date for enquiries: 23 February 1990.

## West Suffolk Magistrates' Courts

Barristers or solicitors are invited to apply for a vacancy for a Magistrates' Court Legal Advisor at Bury St Edmunds. Salary £16,401-£20,568. Recently qualified lawyers may apply. Applications stating age, qualifications, experience and names and addresses of two referees to:

M J Guy, LLB  
Clerk to the Justices  
Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds,  
Suffolk IP33 1HF

## PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Continued from page 18

Nottinghamshire Magistrates' Courts Committee  
Northern Area Clerkship  
Mansfield and Newark Petty Sessions Divisions

**Senior Court Clerk(s)**  
(Senior Court Clerks range 18-22)  
£19,974-£22,350 p.a.

**Court Clerk(s)**  
(Court Clerks range 12-16)  
£16,401-£18,780 p.a.

**Trainee Court Clerk(s)**  
(Trainee Division)  
£4,383-£8,742 p.a.

Opportunities exist within the Northern Area Clerkship for persons looking for a career in the magistrature service and for experience to be gained by persons already in the Service who are looking for career progression.

Vacancies exist at each of my above offices for Solicitor/Barrister Court Clerks and also for trainees seeking a professional qualification. Full training will be given to suitable trainees, and appropriate opportunities and training to those who lack experience in any particular area.

There are 16 court takers in the Clerkship as a whole including three deputies and myself. The posts offer the opportunity to gain valuable experience. The Clerkship comprises both busy urban and rural areas and the workload of the courts is therefore both varied and interesting. All court clerks are assigned administrative duties on a rotational basis which includes responsibility for committee/panel work and representation on various

bodies at county level. Opportunities exist from time to time for involvement in the training of justices.

Commencing salary for a Court Clerk (professionally qualified but without experience) will be within the range 12-16 and for a Senior Court Clerk (professionally qualified with at least two years as a Court Clerk and now taking all courts) will be within the range 18-22. Articles of clerkship are available if necessary.

JNC Conditions of Service apply and the posts are superannuable. Relocation expenses will be paid in appropriate cases at 25% of starting salary up to a maximum of £4,000 including VAT. A lodging allowance of £50 per week for up to thirteen weeks is also payable in appropriate cases.

Nottinghamshire is centrally situated and has excellent road and rail links with both North and South. Within the county there are historic market towns, stately homes and country parks. Modern city amenities are within easy reach of all parts of the Clerkship. The Peak District National Park, the Yorkshire Moors and Dales and the East Coast resorts are within little more than an hours drive.

Applications indicating your preference as to location if appropriate, and a curriculum vitae including the names and addresses of two referees must reach me at my Mansfield Office in an envelope marked "Confidential - Court Clerk" by Wednesday 7th Feb.

M.J. Friel  
Clerk to the Justices  
The Court House  
Commercial Street  
Mansfield, Notts NG18 1BS

**NORTH DERBYSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
Where Quality Counts

## Director of Health Services Research and Information

Salary: £627,500pa plus attractive package

The scope of this job is wide ranging. It will encompass research and analysis for the evaluation of health care policy; the planning, implementation and evaluation of the information strategy. IT and the development of quality assurance systems.

The NHS is a dynamic and vibrant organisation and you will be expected to play a major role as a member of the District's Management Team. You will be required to demonstrate your ability to question conventional thinking and to adopt an imaginative approach to work. Necessary requirements will include research, analytical, communicative, numerical and conceptual skills. Personal qualities and proven achievements are of more importance than a professional or NHS background.

For further information or an informal discussion please contact: Mr John Newton on Chesterfield (0246) 231255 ext 218.

For an application form and job details please contact: Personnel Department, District Headquarters, Scarsdale Hospital, Newbold Road, Chesterfield. Tel: 0246 231255 ext 200.  
Closing date for applications: February 2, 1990.



**THE NETWORK GROUP**

## GROUP ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

SALARY - Scale PO 5 £21,144-£22,554 PLUS - COMPANY CAR

The Network Group is a growing organisation comprising three Housing Associations working with local authorities and the private sector in the provision of rented and low cost housing.

The post of Group Administration Manager is a newly created one operating as part of the management team. Reporting to the Chief Executive, the post-holder will take overall responsibility for personnel and training, office management, reception and the servicing of our Management Committees with the support of a small team.

Self-motivation, flexibility, good communication and administrative skills are essential. The possession of an IPM or Chartered Secretary's qualification would be a considerable advantage.

Network is an equal opportunities employer.  
For a job description and application form please contact: Lynette Cunniff Network House, 10-12 Neeld Parade, Wembley Hill Road, WEMBLEY, Middx Tel: 01-902 7050



**Cleveland County Catering**

## COUNTY CATERING MANAGER

Salary Package:  
Circa £29,000 (inc. P.R.P.)

As a result of the present County Catering Manager taking up an appointment with another Local Authority the County Council is seeking a commercially astute catering professional to head the new Catering Department. (GSO).

The job demands a business manager with extensive managerial experience in the public sector or in a commercial environment. You must be able to demonstrate by your achievements that you have the ability to develop a business strategy and will ensure successful success in a competitive tendering situation. This is a demanding role, and while success will be rewarded against commercial objectives, you must be capable of leading an organisation through a period of change. The appointment will be on a fixed term basis of 4 years.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a catering professional to make a significant contribution in the public sector. An excellent package is on offer including relocation to the attractive and low cost part of the county. A car leasing scheme or essential user car allowance is available.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the County Director of Personnel Services, County House, County Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 1JL. (Telephone 248135 Ext. 2329). The closing date is 9th February 1990.  
We are an equal opportunities employer.

**Cleveland County Council**

## LEGAL

### LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

### BOROUGH SECRETARY AND SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT

## Senior Assistant Solicitor

Salary up to £24,750

An outstanding career opportunity in Local Government has arisen following the internal promotion of the previous postholder.

Havering - a large and active borough - seeks an enthusiastic and capable lawyer to join a highly professional legal team.

This post offers an excellent opportunity for an experienced Solicitor who is keen to develop a career in Local Government law and administration and to become involved in a wide variety of litigation, advocacy and contractual matters. Social Services experience would be an advantage.

The Legal Section of the Borough Secretary and Solicitor's Department is busy, lively and involved in a wide range of exciting schemes and projects.

The Council undertakes all of the functions associated with an Outer London Borough, providing services for a population of some 240,000. The borough enjoys a high level of successful development; it is a thriving, busy centre for industry, business and employment yet remains an attractive area in which to live and work.

The post is based in Romford which is situated on the border of London and Essex with excellent road and rail connections to London and the East and South coasts.

Havering provides: Up to £4,000 towards the cost of relocation expenses in certain cases; a car leasing scheme; a 36 hour week with flexible working hours; 26 days annual leave plus Bank Holidays; and an attractive range of nationally and locally negotiated conditions of service.

Interested? Why not ask for an application form and job description or telephone Kim Reid, Principal Assistant Solicitor on Romford (0708) 46040, extension 3449 for an informal discussion.

An application form and job description may be obtained from the Borough Secretary and Solicitor, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD. Telephone: Romford (0708) 46040, extensions 3012/3019.

Closing date for applications: 9th February 1990.

## AUDITORS

£20,000 + up to £1,700 performance related pay + car + capital card

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- Are you looking for:
- The chance to acquire valuable experience in a progressive environment?
  - Challenge and variety?
  - An atmosphere of innovation and dynamic change?
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We work primarily with local authorities in the Greater London area to help them reach optimum efficiency and achieve real value for money in all of their activities. It's a task that is both demanding and gratifying. You should expect to make a positive and worthwhile contribution.

Ideally you will be a qualified Auditor (CIPFA, CACA, ACA). If you are not professionally qualified but have good experience of auditing or related financial or investigative work then we would still like to hear from you.

Career prospects are further enhanced by the proposed audit of the National Health Service, which will significantly expand the scope of our work. We will provide full training to develop your management potential and technical skills. This will assist you in meeting the challenge of the position, and prepare you for further career progression.

In addition to an excellent salary (currently under review) we offer attractive benefits that include a car, paid professional fees, a capital card, and generous pension.

So if you want to be part of a challenging and progressive environment then please contact The District Auditors office, Room 300B, County Hall, London SE1 7PB (telephone 01 633 3445) for an application form. If you would like to discuss the position in more detail please ask for Peter Coombes.

**A.U.D.I.T. COMMISSION**



## THE LAW

Moving home is the event which most commonly brings the public into contact with solicitors. A Law Society survey showed that 35 per cent of respondents had bought or sold through a solicitor in the past three years.

Most solicitors are wondering whether that proportion will hold up in the 1990s. The Courts and Legal Services Bill, now going through the Lords, extends to what will be known as authorized conveyancing practitioners (ACPs) the right to carry out conveyancing and charge for it. Everybody assumes this means that banks and building societies, but estate agents may want to weigh in as well.

At present, solicitors and licensed conveyancers hold a conveyancing duopoly.

The Bill tells us little about the terms on which ACPs will be allowed to enter the market. That will be left to regulations made when it becomes law. We know, however, from the Government's White Paper in July 1989, *Legal Services - A Framework for the Future*, that the Government is satisfied that unregulated competition will do the public no good. The White Paper makes clear that the Government will act to prevent financial institutions getting themselves into a position where they have obligations to buyer and seller, whether by doing the conveyancing for both of them, or the estate agency for one and conveyancing for the other.

There then came a consultation

# Building property business

## LEGAL BRIEF

The Law Society

has a strategy

to deter potential

conveyancing rivals.

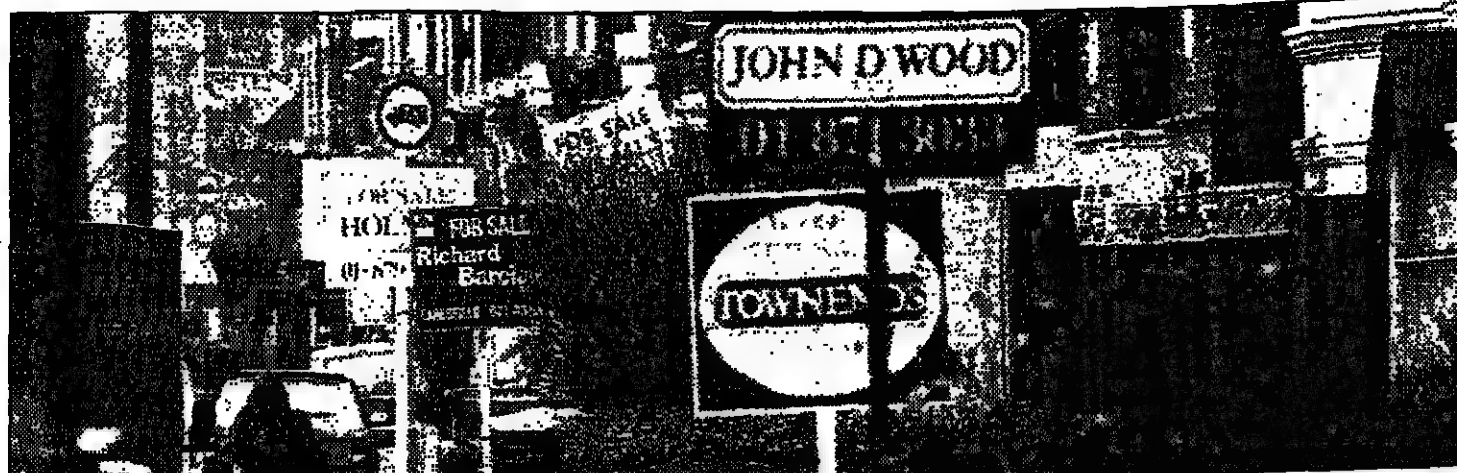
Andrew Lockley

reviews its

prospects of success

paper by the Director-General of Fair Trading on estate agency, which has canvassed ways of preventing financial institutions from taking advantage of customers through their estate agency outlets. There is particular concern about the selling of endowment mortgages to potential property buyers, which are profitable lines for those institutions owning estate agencies.

It may be that the institutions, now that their estate agency operations have suffered in the property slump, will not want to add conveyancing to their portfolios. But the prospect of that



Prices may have fallen, but buying the right home can still be difficult. Would one-stop shopping for property services make the task easier?

threat has concentrated minds. The Law Society has been quietly putting a strategy into effect for the past two years. As a result, solicitors will be able to see off any competition from authorized practitioners.

The strategy can be summarized as three concepts: simplification, packages and information. On the first, the society has concentrated on simplifying conveyancing procedure. Of course, solicitors cannot do this single-handed. Other agencies are involved - local authorities, the Land Registry, mortgage lenders, insurance companies, estate agents and survey-

ors - but that part of the process within solicitors' control the Law Society will simplify, so far as it can. Streamlined procedures, entitled the "national conveyancing protocol", to come into effect on March 21, have been devised to reduce the period between choosing a house and the time on exchange of contracts when the deal is at risk.

Simplifying dealings between solicitors will also facilitate computerization of the conveyancing process and help speed the transaction. The society has published a list of nine recognized suppliers of conveyancing soft-

ware packages used internally by about 500 firms, and is also discussing with three leading providers of network services a possible pilot project to test the feasibility of "on-line" communications between agencies involved in the conveyancing process.

On the third concept, packages, the public has made it clear that whenever possible, it wants to buy services under one roof. But the same public wants services to be provided by independents. The society believes the public's needs can best be met by solicitors - who are independent - moving

out from conveyancing to offer estate agency or financial services as well.

The profession's rules prevent these services (or any other) being offered in situations that might lead to conflicts of interest, so a solicitor acting as an estate agent cannot also sell financial services to those wishing to buy the houses he has for sale.

More than 200 firms of solicitors now also act as estate agents and the number would undoubtedly have grown much faster were it not for the property slump. Nearly 700 firms belong to the Law Society's commercial subsid-

ary, SEPS Ltd, which has linked with the independent financial services group Sedgwick to offer solicitors' clients a number of property-related financial services.

The third arm of the strategy is information. Solicitors have to overcome a widespread lack of appreciation among clients about what they actually do to earn their conveyancing fees. So much of the transaction is invisible.

It will be a key part of the campaign for the protocol that the public is better informed. Clients also want to know what it is going to cost them in advance. Standard forms are now available for written estimates but the society is considering strengthening the obligation (which already exists) to keep clients informed about the cost of work being carried out.

Having a remedy after the event is not nearly so effective as avoiding problems from the start.

In 10 years, it may well be that the solicitor offering residential conveyancing and nothing else will routinely also offer his or her own estate agency or financial services packages as well. The public clearly wants one-stop shopping.

The Government recognizes this cannot be provided without some controls on the most powerful operators in this sphere - the financial institutions. Solicitors are getting into shape for the competition and provided it is fair, will be no worse off for the experience.

● The author is director, legal practice, the Law Society.

## Law Report January 23 1990 Privy Council

### Contractual school-fee arrangement constitutes employee's taxable income

Glynn v Commissioner of Inland Revenue

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Templeman, Lord Griffiths, Lord Ackner and Lord Lowry

[Judgment January 22]

Where pursuant to an employee's contract of service a company paid direct to an English boarding school the school fees of the employee's daughter, the payments constituted income from his employment assessable to Hong Kong salaries tax.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr David Hardy Glynn, from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong allowing an appeal by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue from the judgment of Mr Justice Rind in the High Court of Hong Kong allowing an appeal by the taxpayer from a decision of the Board of Review upholding the commissioner's salaries tax assessment on the

taxpayer for the year 1982-83.

Mr Barry Pinson, QC for the taxpayer, Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Bernard Whalley, Senior Crown Counsel, Hong Kong, for the commissioner.

LORD TEMPLEMAN said that by an agreement in writing the taxpayer agreed to work for a company for a specified monthly remuneration and on terms, *inter alia*, that the company would pay the education costs of his children.

In correspondence between the taxpayer, Rodeon School and the company it was agreed that primary liability for the payment of the school fees of the taxpayer's daughter should be borne by the company. Thereafter the company paid those fees.

By section 8(1) of the Inland Revenue Ordinance salaries tax should be charged for each year of assessment on every person in respect of his income arising in or derived from Hong Kong from any office or employment

of profit. Section 9(1)(a) provided that income from any office or employment included salary or perquisite.

The commissioner contended that each sum paid by the company to Rodeon School was a perquisite of the taxpayer liable to salaries tax. The taxpayer contended, *inter alia*, that a perquisite had to be a sum of money paid to an employee if it was to be taxed.

The principles of the Ordinance were based on the provisions of the United Kingdom Income Tax Act. In particular the taxation of a perquisite involved the same problems in Hong Kong as in the United Kingdom.

Consequently the legislation of the United Kingdom Parliament and the decisions of the United Kingdom courts would provide some assistance in construing the Ordinance.

The result of the authorities was that a perquisite included money paid to the taxpayer and

money expended in discharge of a debt of the taxpayer. There was no difference between a debt of the taxpayer discharged by an employer pursuant to a contract of service and money paid for the benefit of an employee by his employer pursuant to the contract of service.

It would be absurd if an employee engaged at £40,000 paid tax on that sum whereas an employee engaged at £35,000 plus a covenant to spend £5,000 for his benefit in the manner specified in the service agreement was only liable to tax on £35,000.

In both cases it could truly be said that the employee obtained a sum of £40,000 as a salary for his services. In the latter case it could also be said that the employee obtained a salary of £35,000 and a perquisite of £5,000. In both cases salaries tax was chargeable on £40,000.

The school fees might be increased and if so the benefit to the taxpayer would increase

correspondingly. However the amount of the payment made by the company for the benefit of the taxpayer pursuant to his contract of service was ascertainable and taxable.

The employer might provide some advantages for an employee which did not involve the expenditure of money for the benefit of the employee, or which involved an expenditure which could not be attributed wholly or proportionately to one employee.

For example, if an employer contracted to provide a nursery school for the children of all his employees there was no or no identifiable sum expended for the benefit of any particular employee. If the legislature wished to tax that benefit only statute could provide for it.

Money might also be expended indirectly for the benefit of an employee without being taxable for example, if a contract of service did not provide for medical expenses to be paid

and the employer did not normally pay them, the employer might, for compassionate or other reasons, as a special case, voluntarily pay the medical expenses of a child of the employee.

The expense, if not contractual and if lacking the elements of expectation and continuity, would not be taxable. Again the legislature might provide expressly for such benefits to be taxed and define the quantum which should be taxed.

On the other hand legislation might also provide exemption for benefits which would otherwise be taxable. The boundaries of tax principles and tax legislation were sometimes uncertain and frequently surprising.

For present purposes it sufficed that an identifiable sum of money required to be expended by an employer, pursuant to a contract of service for the benefit of the employee, was money paid at the request of the employee and was either part of the employee's salary or was a

monetary perquisite taxable as such according to the law and authorities of the UK.

It was money paid at the request of the employee equivalent to money paid to the employee.

Salaries and perquisites, expressions which had formed part of United Kingdom income tax law since at least 1842, had to have the same meaning in Hong Kong tax law, which was based on United Kingdom law, provided that the Hong Kong legislation did not attach different meanings to those expressions.

There was nothing in section 9 to suggest that the expressions "salary" and "perquisite" did not include sums contracted to be paid by the employer for the benefit of the employee.

If the Hong Kong legislation intended to achieve the result that only sums paid in cash to a taxpayer were taxable, the distance would require different language to achieve such an absurd result.

The Court of Appeal felt inhibited from applying United Kingdom authorities to the Hong Kong definitions of salary and perquisite on account of *Attorney-General v Perry* (1934) AC 477 and *Armstrong v Estate Duty Commissioners* (1937) AC 845.

However, expressions employed in British legislation and authorities on the meaning of such expressions were of assistance in construing identical expressions in Hong Kong legislation concerned with the same subject matter.

The Hong Kong legislation might provide to the contrary but the court considered that such expressions were of assistance in construing identical expressions in Hong Kong legislation concerned with the same subject matter.

Solicitors: Charles Russell Williams & James, Macfarlane.

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

### CORPORATE FINANCE

The Corporate Finance Department of this highly respected U.K. Merchant Bank continues to build on its reputation as one of the major players in this field.

### UK MERCHANT BANK

It currently seeks to recruit a select number of lawyers to handle a diverse range of corporate finance matters including sales and acquisitions, takeovers, flotations and rights issues.

Applicants will be talented newly/recently qualified solicitors or barristers who have already gained exposure to corporate work, ideally including both Yellow and Blue Book.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a first class, innovative corporate finance team. Remuneration packages will include a competitive salary, executive car, performance related bonuses and a mortgage subsidy.

Please contact Paul Mewis on 01-936 2565 (evenings/weekends 01-627 1995) or write to him at Taylor Root, Ludgate House, 107 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB.

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### Public order section unconstitutional

Hector v Attorney-General of Antigua and Barbuda and Others

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman, Lord Griffiths and Lord Ackner

[Judgment January 22]

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held that section 33B of the Public Order Act 1972, inserted by the Public Order (Amendment) Act 1976, contravened the Constitution of Antigua and Barbuda and had no effect to the extent that it made printing or distributing any false statement which was likely to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs a criminal offence.

The Judicial Board of the Privy Council allowed an appeal by the appellant, Mr Leonard Hector, from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (Antigua and Barbuda) which had allowed an appeal by the respondents, the Attorney-General of Antigua and Barbuda, the Commissioner of Police and Mr Samuel Barry, an additional magistrate, from the judgment of Mr Justice Matthews in the High Court of Antigua and Barbuda, who had declared that the appellant's constitutional rights had been contravened by the institution of criminal proceedings against him under section 33B and they should be quashed, and that that section was unconstitutional to the extent that it contained the words "or to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs".

The appellant was the editor of a newspaper published in Antigua known as the *Outlook*. He was charged in respect of an article published therein in May 1985 with an offence under section 33B of the Public Order Act 1972. It was alleged that the article was a false statement which was likely to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs.

The appellant challenged the prosecution on the ground that the specific provision of section 33B under which the charge was laid violated the Constitution.

In a free and democratic society it was almost too obvious that, following the decision in *Hunt v R. M. Douglas* (1988) 3 WLR 975, they were entitled to an order which would give them interest at the commercial rate, now 15 per cent, pursuant to section 17 of the Judgments Act 1838, on the damages on which interest was chargeable as from the date of the Order 14 judgment.

In *European Asian Bank v Punjab & Sind* (1983) 1 WLR 642 Lord Justice Robert Goff had said that there was no special principle governing the exercise of judicial discretion in relation to judgments under Order 14.

It was covered by those principles governing general interlocutory judgments and was therefore of the most residential kind and would not in any event allow the court to refuse judgment.

However, his Lordship said, there remained a discretion as to the form in which the order was set. Mr Stewart had argued that if judgment carrying interest at the commercial rate were awarded in such cases there would be a strong incentive for defendants to raise defences no matter how spurious, because it was to their advantage to prevent interest running at the higher rate during the interval between the Order 14 judgment and the eventual hearing.

By so doing the plaintiffs

Section 3 of the Constitution of Antigua and Barbuda provides that every person in Antigua and Barbuda is entitled to freedom of expression, including freedom of the Press, and section 12(1) provides: "Except with his own consent, no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of expression."

Section 33B of the Public Order Act 1972 provides: "Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law any person who (a) prints or distributes any false statement which is likely to cause fear or alarm in or to the public, or to disturb the public peace, or to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs, shall be guilty of an offence."

Dr Fenton Ramsahoye, SC and Mr Sydney Christian (both of the Antigua and Barbuda Bar) for the appellants, Mr George Newman, QC and Mr Michael Lazarus for the respondents.

LORD BRIDGE said that the appellant was the editor of a newspaper published in Antigua known as the *Outlook*. He was charged in respect of an article published therein in May 1985 with an offence under section 33B of the Public Order Act 1972. It was alleged that the article was a false statement which was likely to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs.

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By so doing the plaintiffs

vious to need stating that those who held office in government and who were responsible for public administration had always to be open to criticism. Any attempt to stifle or suppress criticism amounted to political censorship of the most insidious and objectionable kind.

At the same time it was no less obvious that the very purpose of criticism levelled at those who held office in government was to bring about their removal from office by their political opponents who were to be replaced by others who were to be more open to criticism. Any attempt to stifle or suppress criticism amounted to political censorship of the most insidious and objectionable kind.

It was urged for the respondents, in defence to any attack on the provision in question as amounting to political censorship, that it would always be a defence to a charge laid under that provision that the defendant had an honest belief on reasonable grounds in the truth of the statement which he had made, printed or distributed, and that it was unobjectionable to penalize false statements made without taking due care to verify their accuracy.

However, it would be a grave impediment to the freedom of the Press if those who printed or distributed matter reflecting critically on the conduct of

public authorities could only do so with impunity if they could first verify the accuracy of all statements of fact on which the criticism was based.

The court considered whether the provision could be justified under section 12(4)(a)(i) of the Constitution, which protected any law "to the extent that the law in question makes provision that is reasonably required in the interests of ... public order."

The statements against which section 33B was directed might fall foul of the section on any one of three grounds: (i) that they were likely to cause fear or alarm in or to the public; (ii) that they were likely to disturb the public peace; or (iii) that they were likely to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs.

In so far as it was necessary to make provision in the criminal law in the interests of public order against the dissemination of false statements likely to disrupt or disturb public order, the whole field was effectively covered by condemnation of statements which were likely to offend against the section on grounds (i) and (ii).

The words in section 33B "or to undermine public confidence in the conduct of public affairs" were not therefore to be construed as covering statements which were likely to offend against the section on grounds (i) and (ii).

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be allowed and the order of Mr Justice Matthews restored.

Solicitors: Hallmark Atkinson Wynne, Charles Russell Williams & James.

### Judicial discretion on Order 14 interest rates

Putty v Barnard

Before Judge Goldblatt

[Judgment December 15]

While it was open to a plaintiff to secure judgment in an action for negligence causing death or personal injury by way of summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, where liability was admitted, with damages to be assessed, and while whatever residual discretion that remained to the judge would very rarely allow him to refuse judgment, there nevertheless remained a discretion which allowed the judge to grant such order as ensured that the defendant would not be liable under the Judgments Act 1838 to interest on damages at the commercial rate on sums eventually awarded running from the date of the Order 14 judgment.

Judge Goldblatt so held when, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division, he allowed the appeal of the plaintiffs against the refusal of the master to grant interlocutory judgment under Order 14.

Mr Timothy Briden for the plaintiffs, Mr Stephen Stewart for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said the plaintiffs sought summary judgment - liability was not disputed - with the quantum of damages to be assessed in a subsequent hearing.

By so doing the plaintiffs

those of Order 27, rule 3 that the court might "give such judgment or make such order ... as it thinks just".

It followed therefore that as with Order 27, rule 3 in Order 14, rule 3 there was a discretion over and above that to which Lord Justice Goff had adverted in the *European Bank* case.

The court had to have regard to the declared policy on Order 14 and the impact that the way the court went had on litigants. The court should do nothing to encourage parties to raise unreal issues in proceedings and should

not put a party in a position where just by procedural delays there was a financial advantage to be had.

His Lordship did have a wider discretion by which he could give a declaratory judgment or make an order in some other form which would not bring Order 14 judgments within the terms of section 17 of the Judgments Act 1838.

It was a matter of what the justice of the case required.

Solicitors, Edward Son & Noise, Geoffrey Warhurst & Co, Manchester.

### Local knowledge risk

Bowman v DPP

Magistrates had to be extremely circumspect when using local knowledge and it was always wise for the court to make the fact known to both prosecution and defence that local knowledge was being relied upon.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan) so stated on January 17 in dismissing an appeal by way of case stated brought by the defendant, Robert James Bowman, against the decision of the Portsmouth Justices on June 13 1989 to convict him of driving a motor vehicle on a public place, namely Paradise Street Car Park, after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion of it

in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit, contrary to section 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as substituted in Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981.

The justices did not accept the defence submission that the car park which was a National Car Park was not a public place in the early hours of the morning.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that while it was established that justices were entitled to use local knowledge when weighing up the evidence it was always fair known to the defence and prosecution to give the legal representatives an opportunity of commenting on the local knowledge which the justices claimed to have had and claimed to use.



## THE LAW

## The list they all need to read

Which firms are the greatest in the land?

Edward Fennell considers the importance of being listed in the top 15

In public, most corporate lawyers these days affect a lofty indifference to the various league tables which list their size and activities. In private, however, we know they read them obsessively for secret pain or pleasure.

You can do virtually anything with a list, however, and this elasticity struck me recently with the publication by *Acquisitions Monthly* of its table of the liveliest firms in the takeover sector. Running from Linklaters & Paines in top position to Nabarro Nathanson at number 15, it included most of the familiar big city names — although it must be said that when compared with the *Legal 500's* listing by size, Richards Butler and Wile Sapte were conspicuous by their absence.

What was striking was the various ways in which the list could be interpreted. If one analysed the figures first by the number of deals, then by the total size of the deals and finally by the average size of each deal, one came out with different ranking results each time.

What was absolutely clear, however, was that three firms in particular — Linklaters, Herbert Smith and Freshfields — had done superbly well. All three could claim a large number of very big transactions. In terms of both quality and quantity, they were clearly ahead of the rest.

By contrast, Clifford Chance and Slaughter & May — usually considered the two most significant firms in London alongside Linklaters — had a large number of medium-size jobs to their credit. The average Linklaters transaction, for example, was roughly five times the size of Clifford Chance's.

One of the many fascinating issues arising from this, however, is exactly how Linklaters can stand the pressure of doing 27 important deals in one year. But, as David Cheyne, a Linklaters partner, explained, there is no question that along with legal expertise, it is good frontline management skills that are the vital ingredient, particularly when two takeovers and a large flotation could easily be in progress at the same time.

Linklaters says that with so much happening, it is vital that there be one person at the centre of each deal, holding it together. The chances are that many different departments will be involved over the course of the whole transaction, so the battle is passed from one to



David Cheyne, a Linklaters partner: frontline management skills vital

another as the deal unfolds. Good organization is therefore critical. And to back it up, a corporate partner should be clearly identified as being in touch with the transaction from start to finish.

Law firms work best as "ad hocerics", however, working within a general system but essentially "busking it" as the transaction goes along. But underlying that informality, there must be confidence that each department will do its job on time.

At one stage last year, for example, Cheyne was deeply embroiled in one transaction that took him to Dublin from Saturday to Monday, then had him fighting over at the Take-Over Panel for the rest of the week. Meanwhile, he was relying on his colleagues not to let him down on other deals during that period.

Cheyne says: "It is neither efficient nor sensible for me to intervene in something that depends on someone else's expertise. But I must be assured that it is being well-handled."

Even so, for Cheyne and some of his colleagues, 1989 was a long story of 16-hour days and a succession of weekends at work. "And frankly if you get more than four weeks of that without a break, the danger is that your efficiency will lessen," he says. "If you want to know the top 15 takeover experts, here, courtesy of *Acquisitions Monthly*, is the list: Linklaters, Herbert Smith, Freshfields, Simmons & Simmons, S.J. Berwin, Clifford Chance, Slaughter & May, Norton Rose, Gouldens, Ashurst Morris Crisp, Travers Smith Braithwaite, Lovell White Durrant, Alan & Overy, McKenna & Co, Nabarro Nathanson.

Internal rules of the operators' compensation units. Lawyers may push for disclosure of secret documents spelling out the rules.

It is only when these cases reach the tribunal that we may finally clarify the basis for valuing all claims because claims decided there also provide in later judicial terms the best new evidence of the local property market.

If one household in a road is in a hurry to settle soon for what he or she can, even if it is less than ideal, he may be unpopular with his neighbours because his claim, once resolved at the tribunal, is a marker for all the other claims.

Potentially, it will all be a new source of lucrative business for surveyors in the late 1990s. But the rail links, of course, have first to be built.

Robert Silver  
The author is a barrister and journalist.

## INNS AND OUTS

A study published this month by Susan Edwards, of the School of Law at the University of Buckingham, and Carol Gould and Ann Halpern, of the Council of Legal Education, on the operation of the "clean break" principle in divorce proceedings confirms what every family lawyer knows — that a large proportion of periodical payments orders made after divorce are low in value and often in arrears. The authors of the study found that in inner London in 1988, 72 per cent of live orders for maintenance had at some time been in arrears, and many of these involved sums over £1,000. They also found that 69 per cent of maintenance orders for spouses were for sums of £7 a week or less (including orders for nominal sums).

Though Mrs Thatcher is in favour of measures that would force fathers to pay up, the findings of the study prompt the authors to question whether some of these orders are worth making at all. The report asks whether it would not be better for policy makers to earmark resources for the provision of childcare facilities that would free single mothers to go out to work, rather than awarding and enforcing orders for payments unlikely to be made. As the authors point out, much has been made of the tax breaks available to employers who provide childcare facilities, but parents are still taxed on payments for such benefits. The Government, meanwhile, has set its face against the funding of state nurseries.

The international shipping and finance boutique Watson, Farley & Williams has scored a coup. It is the first UK firm to bring in American lawyers as partners. The seven shipping specialists, previously with New York firm Burlington Underwood & Lord will operate out of the firm's new New York office. The attorneys are full members of Farley's international partnership, which stands distinct from the London partnership. That ensures that the firm complies with the Law Society's ban on sharing profits with non-solicitors, although the society's growing approval of partnerships with foreign lawyers eased the deal.

Union Carbide may think that its settlement with the Indian government, in which it paid \$470 million in compensation to victims of the Bhopal disaster, is the end of the matter. But the California-based Bhopal Justice Campaign is still pushing for a trial in the United States. It argues that the 260,000 victims need a minimum of \$4.6 billion for health care, and that had the case been tried in the US they could have received up to \$35 billion. Instead, according to one lawyer, though some families have received around \$200, most have received nothing because the \$470 million seems to be disappearing into go-betweens' pockets. BJC says there is still some hope in that the Indian Supreme Court has held up its approval of the settlement, and, since Rajiv Gandhi's resignation as prime minister, the whole issue could be re-opened. Ghandi's successor, V.P. Singh, has declared that his government will support the call for a review of the settlement. UC claims that the agreed settlement is binding but Singh argues that the old government had no authority to make a settlement that extinguished all the rights of the victims.

The United States-based *National Law Journal* recently set out to gather statistical information on how the growing numbers of women entering the legal profession were assimilating into their firms. The results show they are finding it tough. Of the 1,000 women in large corporate law firms surveyed, more than 60 per cent had experienced unwanted sexual attention of some kind at work. Sixty-four per cent of the respondents reported that opportunities were better for men in firm management and 50 per cent said interviewers directly or indirectly questioned their commitment to a full-time legal career. Forty per cent indicated that women who take the annual amount of maternity leave face slowed or stopped paths to partnership. Most expressed frustration with the profession's inability to endorse anything other than an "all-or-nothing" approach to practice.

Scrivenor

## Slow train running: how to get compensation on the Tunnel line

Now that the Channel Tunnel project, with the help of the bankers, is back on course, the subject of compensation for those affected by the development will be back in the spotlight.

On usual principles, under the Land Compensation Act 1973, you can recover cash from an undertaker of public works, not just when you are right in the line of fire and are bought out, but when your home loses value from noise or vibration caused by the project.

The developments covered by the Act include new roads, airports or other activities such as the Channel Tunnel. In fact, so few new railways have been developed in the 20th century that it has rarely been an issue.

Tens of thousands of people by the track in Kent and London may have claims against British Rail and

EuroRail, going possibly into five figures. The potential payout may exceed £100 million.

Already, via compulsory purchase, British Rail has hit on a commercial plan to cut its losses.

It aims to buy out any volunteers within 200 metres either side of the link, including those who are not directly in the way — many more than they need — and sell off the new stock to the highest bidders. But their liability goes further.

British Rail accepts that liability and, as one of its leaflets explains, "the law requires that compensation is

paid for houses reduced in value due to the running of a project like a rail link. Provision is made by us for compensation for reductions in value due to factors like noise from trains using the link. In general, compensation cannot be assessed until the line has been working for one year."

However, the problem is that once the possibility arises of a large development such as the Channel Tunnel, the market fears the worst. As rumour spreads, property prices locally may be depressed for a period, but the contractor is not legally expected to pay householders for losses because of contagious talk or

over-wary estate agents. Even so, the Act is clear. The test for recoverable loss is loss in value as at one year from the opening day. Thus, you cannot recover compensation for inconvenience and lost value brought on in the building phase.

Claims must be for more than £50, and though several heads of potential "effects" giving rise to claims are set out, including noise, vibration, smell, fumes and smoke, you cannot get automatic compensation where you can already sue for nuisance.

Nuisance suits, however, are ruled out in projects expressly set up by statute,

and claims from a homeowner, contested by an operator, will go to the Lands Tribunal to be fought out by lawyers.

In response, British Rail and/or EuroRail may decide to treat claims in clusters and apply norms for compensation, judged by the distance from the track and the decibel levels.

Amounts, in their view, should hinge on where you are. People in a road may want to challenge the norm for the road. As a result, we may see class actions, test cases at the tribunal brought by leading local spokesmen or, even, cases brought to attack the

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## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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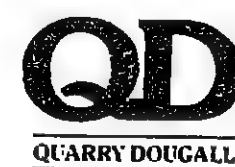
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# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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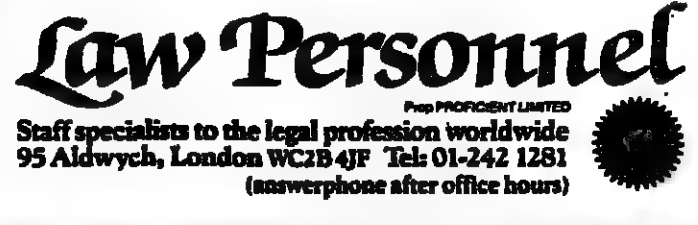
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# Kenyans help supply common sense

**Auckland**  
The chairman of the Kenyan Olympic Association yesterday succeeded in suggesting some common sense to his African Commonwealth colleagues to produce political stability in the forthcoming Games, while across town the Canadian Minister for Sport promised permanent subsidy to ensure financial stability.

While one official asked why we should not have a unified Games, the other asked a more fundamental question: why do we have Games at all, Olympic, Commonwealth, Asian, and if we do, how can they be organized fairly in the interest of all participating nations?

Charles Mukora, the chairman of the Kenyan Olympic Association, who is a candidate for the vice-chairman's post at today's general assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), told yesterday's meeting of



**David Miller**  
African members that it was out of all proportion to be even thinking of threatening the Games on account of 16 inconsequential, unofficially touring cricketers in South Africa. "It would be silly to damage the Games, which we all want, on account of this," Mukora said.

The African meeting confirmed there would be no boycott, but made further gratuitous criticism of the English Council for not upholding the spirit of anti-apartheid resolutions. This continuing resentment, prompted by Nigeria and Zimbabwe, is believed to be caused primarily at Sir Arthur Gold on account of a statement made to *The Times*

many months ago, namely, that rebel cricketers were no different from other, unchallenged, emigrant professionals such as plumbers.

The weekend controversy, in the opinion of Fekrou Kidane, an anti-apartheid adviser to the International Olympic Committee, has been to some extent "got up by the Press": in the best Waugh tradition, not finding a war, some of pressure have tried to invent one. There are no technical grounds for a demand for England's suspension - a possibility at today's assembly - besides which, the English Council fulfilled the letter and spirit of the law by writing in protest to both the Test and County Cricket Board and to the individual cricketers in question.

The Africans should check their facts. Only random, ir-

The CGF executive has recommended to today's general assembly that Ben Johnson be stripped of his Commonwealth Games 100 metres record, 10.75sec set in Edinburgh four years ago. The International Amateur Athletic Federation has ended all the Canadian's world, area and national sprint records after he admitted under oath to using performance-enhancing drugs since 1981.

rational Government intervention can now disrupt what we all hope will be a return to the Friendly Games.

Jean Charest, the Canadian Government's French Minister, gave a press conference at which he outlined several proposals by the Canadian Government: in particular, the creation of a multi-nation trust which will broaden the scope for developing nations,

and a scheme, from 1994 in Victoria, British Columbia, to embrace handicapped Games in the main event.

On February 4, the Commonwealth Ministers for Sport will meet for the first time to debate the Canadian initiative for a trust, for which a working party is being set up. Charest argues that it is the ethical philosophy, not merely the physical continuity of the Games, which is at stake.

"It is unthinkable that only developed, rich countries can afford to host the Games, which are inaccessible to developing countries," he said. "We have to make the Games more accessible to enable them to survive." Sport should not become a showcase for the rich, he said.

In defence of this philosophy, Charest said that the Canadian Government was willing to be permanent underwriter of a proportion of

the cost of hosting the Games, as one of the four rich members, so as to give a chance to the smaller nations to host the event. He hoped other developed nations would be persuaded to support the principle. "We must not expect exclusively the best stadium facilities and the best accommodation," Charest said. "If the spirit of the Games is something that really matters, then there should be times when we are prepared to sleep under canvas."

Canada has already put this policy to effect in the establishment last year of the first Francophone Games, in Morocco, at which France and Canada paid 65 per cent of the costs.

This principle is worthy, yet I largely disagree about the amalgamation of conventional and handicapped Games, which would confuse wholly different objectives

and would, if it does not seem too harsh a thing to say, overvalue, athletically, not morally, the achievements of the handicapped competitors. Conventional Games are measured in absolutes, whereas handicapped achievements never can be, because standards and handicaps are infinitely variable.

The candidates for the 1998 Commonwealth Games, whose venue will be decided in Barcelona in two years' time, are expected to be Delhi, defeated by Victoria last time, Kuala Lumpur and either Adelaide or Perth. At today's assembly, Prince Edward will succeed the Duke of Edinburgh as CGF president. The candidates to succeed Peter Healey, of Scotland, as chairman are Sonny De Sales, of Hong Kong, and Ivor Dent, of Canada.

Athletics preview, page 42

END COLUMN

## A mouth that has opened too wide

From Andrew Longmore  
Melbourne

John McEnroe's mouth was finally closed as he left town yesterday but his ears must have been burning. Until Boris Becker, the No. 2 seed, came from two sets down to beat Miloslav Mecir just before midnight, the talk had been only of McEnroe's controversial disqualification from the Australian Open tennis tournament on Sunday.

It was probably as well that McEnroe flew home with his family because he would not have found the dressing-room at Flinders Park overflowing with sympathy for his outburst. There seemed to be two main questions on the players' lips: "How did he get caught out yesterday?" and "What took them so long to catch up with him?"

"He's done worse things than he did yesterday," Stuart Edberg said. "But they had to take that decision and he's only got himself to blame for being thrown out."

"Several guys have said to me that they were glad it happened," Aaron Krickstein added. "What he did wasn't even close to some of the other stuff he's done, but after all these years they obviously don't want to let him get away with it any more."

Apart from the fact that McEnroe has escaped the ultimate penalty in the game for 12 years, the main surprise

expressed by the players was McEnroe's ignorance of the new rules about penalty points in grand slam events.

"Nobody can tell if he knows the rules or not," Edberg said. "He is very bright and he knows how far he can go so maybe he was surprised by his disqualification."

But McEnroe did receive support from an unexpected source later in the day. McEnroe and Becker have never been soul-mates, but Becker has been in an unusually rebellious mood recently and without exactly leaping to the American's defence, he didn't condemn him out of hand either.

"He definitely said a couple of things that weren't right," Becker said. "But that's the way he is. I think the rules are wrong. There ought to be a different penalty than throwing him out of the match. When you're out in the heat for three and four hours it's not easy to keep your cool. Not everyone can be like a computer out there."

When all the debating is done, however, there is really only one issue and it has nothing to do with McEnroe's record either as one of the great champions of the game or as one of the most hot-tempered players in the game.

On Sunday, McEnroe clearly overstepped the new code of conduct rules laid down initially by the Association of Tour Professionals, of which McEnroe has been a vigorous supporter, and adopted by the International Tennis Federation for grand slam events. Rightly, he paid the price.

Yes, as Edberg says, tennis is an intense and individual game and there is nowhere to take a breather and cool down. Yes, there were plenty of crowd distractions during McEnroe's match against Perinfort, from harrackers in crying babies.

Yes, McEnroe's volatile temperament is peculiarly suited to such occasions. Yes, it is a shame that the public has been deprived of one of the few players capable of winning the event. But none of those excuses nor ignorance of the rules amounts to anything approaching a coherent defence for abuse of officials in any sport, let alone a high profile one like tennis.

"There will always be people getting upset on court. People like John who have a temper," Edberg, who is one of the least demonstrative players on the circuit, said. "I don't think there's anything wrong if something happens out there as long as you don't go too far." This time, clearly, McEnroe went a few syllables too far.

## Norling gives full support to the ban on Moseley

By Peter Bills

Clive Norling, the Welshman widely regarded as the best rugby union referee in the world, yesterday gave his support to the seven-month ban imposed on Kevin Moseley, who was sent off during Wales's five nations' championship match against France on Saturday.

The ban was imposed by a disciplinary panel of the International Rugby Football Board after Moseley's sending-off by the English referee, Fred Howard, for aiming a kick at a French player trapped in a ruck. But, although Norling was quick to applaud the panel's decision, Moseley's club coach at Pontypool, John Perkins, protested that the punishment was too harsh.

Norling said that he considered the panel's decision would be an encouragement to referees. "The old feeling among referees used to be that if you sent a player off it was likely to stifle your progress up the ladder," he said. "But I believe that now the opposite applies. If referees are not seen to be taking the firmest action to eliminate incidents like stamping, then it can count

against them and their reputations." Norling applauded the committee: "The International Board and their constituent bodies are now firmly behind referees who stand up and take action. This decision confirms that point."

Norling did not sympathize with Moseley, but he did identify the use of the

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sin bin in Welsh club rugby as a misleading influence on players.

"It is an area that should be cleaned up. Frankly, I would get rid of the sin bin altogether. It is a soft option and I don't think it has got any value whatsoever," he said.

"Perhaps it is also unfair to players because it depends on the various referees whether it is used or not. Personally, I have never used it apart from when players have shown dissent. But never for foul play - if it is that bad, they have to go off. The trouble is there are no clear guidelines as to when a player should go to the sin bin."

Norling's view of the ban on

Moseley was not shared by Perkins, a former Welsh international himself. He said yesterday: "Thirty-two weeks is a punishment that does not fit the crime. I thought he would be banned for six weeks for illegal use of the boot. I do not condone what the player did, and I would not argue with the referee for sending him off, but I am appalled at that sentence. He suffered the enormous indignity of being sent off an international field, but instead of waiting a few days for him to get his act together, they have kicked him when he is down. They have torn the boy apart."

"We try to fire our players up so that they play with commitment, but they just go over the brink. And what those who haven't played against France don't appreciate is that with them there are always certain tactics you don't come across with any other country."

The views for and against the controversial rule are to be discussed at a meeting between the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) and officials from the referees committee, scheduled for later this week.

## Becker recovers after courting disaster

From Andrew Longmore  
Tennis Correspondent  
Melbourne

Old memories came back to haunt Miloslav Mecir and revive Boris Becker in the fourth round of the Australian Open here yesterday. The languid Czechoslovak had been two sets and 3-1 up against Stefan Edberg in the semi-final of Wimbledon two years ago and lost; last night, he gained a similar glimpse of victory against Becker, the world champion and No. 2 seed, and lost again, 4-6, 6-7, 6-4, 6-1, 6-1, in three hours and 51 minutes.

Typically, Mecir had a simple explanation for his defeat. "Boris is one of the best fighters in the game," he said forlornly. "I was 3-1 up in the third set and he started to play better."

But that doesn't quite tell the whole story. For two and a half sets Mecir played as only he can, with a grace and an elegance unmatched by any other player. He kept Becker pinned on the baseline and consistently bemused him with the ease and casual precision of his groundstrokes. Occasionally, he loped to the net, forcing the Wimbledon champion into error on his passing shots and never allowing him to dominate as he likes to.

For a further two and a half sets, Mecir also played as only he can, throwing away points like straw in the wind. Serving for a 4-1 lead in the third set, he lost the game and won only three more games in the match.

"He really played well for two and a half sets, but he had to work hard to win the points and the longer the match went on the more tired he got," Becker said. "But, to be honest, I'm astonished that I managed to come back. It doesn't happen very often."

Despite facing another unexpected exit from the Australian Open, Becker was able to take comfort from his record in five-set matches over the last year. He beat Andre Agassi from 2-0 down in the Davis Cup and was just a net cord away from defeat by Derrick Rostagno before going on to win the US Open.

"Someone shouted to me, 'Remember the Davis Cup



Screaming mad: Becker motivates himself against Mecir at the Australian Open yesterday

against America", and that helped. I decided in the third set that if he was going to beat me, he would have to play for another 2½ sets. You have first to struggle with yourself and tell yourself: 'Next point, next point'."

On a still evening, disturbed only by the chatter of a flock of birds resting on the sliding roof, and the odd back-scratcher, Becker seemed determined to power Mecir off the court. He attacked the second serve mercilessly and led 3-1 before the No. 10 seed managed to stamp his own

more gentle authority on the match.

While Becker struggled to find any rhythm on either forehand or backhand and was relying on his serve to keep him level, Mecir hit his deceptively flat ground strokes into the corners. He enjoyed his best periods at the end of the first set, which he took after 46 minutes, and in the middle of the second, when he recovered from a 5-2 deficit by winning 12 points in a row and took the tie-break from 4-0 down.

Only halfway through the third set did Becker's tactical

confusion end. His backhand returned and with it came confidence and the power which had been missing for so much of the night. The writing was on the wall when a backhand pass flashed past Mecir as Becker won the third set.

Becker now plays Mats Wilander in the quarter-final. Wilander beat Veli Paltoheimo in three sets. The Finn was unlucky. He injured his right ankle at the start of the second set and, though still able to play, could not really push off on either side.

Aaron Krickstein, the fifth seed, was also severely restricted, by a groin injury, and was beaten by David Wheaton, the young American.

So the quarter-final line-up in the men's singles is: Lendl v Cherkasov, Perinfort v Noah, Wheaton v Edberg, and Wilander v Becker. The heavyweights, Becker and Lendl, are still on collision course for Sunday's final, but Edberg has been the most impressive of the top seeds so far.

### RESULTS FROM MELBOURNE

**MEN'S SINGLES:** Fourth round: S. Edberg (Swe) vs J. Svensson (Swe), 6-2, 6-2, 6-4; D. Wheaton (US) vs A. Krickstein (US), 7-6, 6-4, 6-3; M. Wilander (Swe) vs V. Paltoheimo (Fin), 7-6, 6-4, 6-0; B. Becker (Ger) vs M. Mecir (Cze), 4-6, 6-7, 6-4, 6-1, 6-1.

**MEN'S DOUBLES:** Third round: S. Davis (US) and R. Van't Hof (US) vs D. Casanova (US) and G. Pozzi (It), 7-5, 3-6, 6-2; N. Broad and G. Muller (GB) vs P. Harrington (US) and N. Ugrum (Swe), 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; J. Fluetten and H. Lecroix (Fr) vs J. Hirsch (Swi) and E. Wengradsky (Fr), 6-2, 7-6 (7-3).

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES:** Third round: J. Novotna and H. Suklova (Cz) vs A. Minter (Aus) and J. Richardson (NZ), 6-3, 6-4; G. Fernandez and R. White (US) vs M. Lindstrom (Swe) and L. Luskoff (US), 6-2, 6-1; S. Sanchez and M. Zvereva (USSR) vs E. Bughn and R. Farbank (US), 6-2, 7-6; G. MacGregor and G. MacGregor (US) vs J. Adams and L. McNeil (US), 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; A. Fahl and M. McQuillan (Aus) vs K. Jordan (US) and E. Smylie (Aus), 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; B. Schultz (Neth) and A. Ternesova (Neth) vs S. Golea (Neth) and K. Mileva (Bul), 7-5, 6-3.

**MIXED DOUBLES:** Second round: S. Cannon and R. White (US) vs M. Krasemann and J. Thompson (Aus), 6-1, 7-6 (7-4); J. Cornejo (Mex) and G. Hernandez (US) vs T. Woodbridge and J. A. Paul (Aus), 7-6, 6-3; C. Quaresima and J. Leach and Z. Giamponi (US) vs A. Costa (GB) and R. Riegi (It), 6-4, 6-4.

## Baird will sign for £500,000

Middlebrough are expected to sign Ian Baird from Leeds United for £500,000 this morning (Louise Taylor writes).

After an earlier spell at the Elland Road club, Baird was sold to Portsmouth for £275,000, before being bought back for £180,000.

Bruce Rioch, the Middlebrough manager, has made Stoke City a £150,000 offer for Chris Kamara, the midfield player, aged 32.

Stefan Rehn, Everton's Swedish international midfielder, yesterday agreed to join Gothenburg. Rehn, aged 23, will return to Sweden for £400,000 just seven months after arriving at Goodison Park from Djurgården for an identical fee. Rehn said his desire to win a place in Sweden's World Cup squad was instrumental in his decision.

## England training turns into farce

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson's plans to assemble all of his World Cup candidates for a midweek training session were reduced to a farce yesterday. Of the 30 players asked to attend the National Sports Centre at Lillleshall, only a dozen were available and able to take part in the fitness trials.

"That is the trouble we have running international football in this country," Robson said. "One is married to a long, heavy and strenuous season. I am disappointed because I looked carefully at the diary before deciding on the date. I expected one or two absences but now I'm without more than half the squad."

Eight of those missing were preparing for midweek cup ties. The others were injured. The latest casualties were Adams, Rocastle and Thomas, of Arsenal. Wounded during Saturday's derby against Tottenham

Hotspur, they withdrew two hours before they were scheduled to join their colleagues.

Not all of those who did turn up were fit. Neither Brian Robson nor Webb, for instance, featured in Manchester United's ignominious defeat away against Norwich City on Sunday but at least they could be assessed yesterday.

John Brewer, the head of the National Human Performance Centre, explained the value of the tests. "Our job is to identify any area where players may need special work, such as a weakened hamstring."

Brewer said the England cricket team, who attended before leaving for the West Indies, would be "the fittest team ever to leave these shores", but he was not in a position to offer a similar prediction about the nation's football representatives.

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## Co-driver killed in Renault

Monte Carlo (Reuters) - One competitor was killed and another seriously injured when a car plunged off the road into a ravine during the second stage of the Monte Carlo rally yesterday, the organisers said.

They said the car was a privately entered Renault driven by Jean-Claude Bertaudiere, of France, who was severely injured. Francis Malauasene, the co-driver, was killed outright. The car left the road on a sharp bend and dropped 200 metres into a ravine on the first of the day's six special timed sections.

The last fatal accident in the rally occurred last year when two Swedish spectators were killed.

**LEADING POSITIONS** (after nine special timed sections): Equal 1, D. Auriol (Fr), Lancia, 2hr 00min 7sec; C. Seneiz (Esp), Toyota, same time; 2, B. Saby (Fr), Lancia, 15sec behind; 4, M. Besson (It), Lancia, 1:15; 5, D. Corno (It), Lancia, 1:50; 6, A. Schwartz (Ger), Toyota, 4:00.

## Games for Berlin

East Berlin (Reuters) - The International Olympic Committee President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, has raised hopes of staging a joint Games in East and West Berlin, saying the crumbling of the Berlin Wall has made the city a strong contender.

In an interview with the East German newspaper, *Deutsches Sportecho*, published yesterday, Samaranch said: "Berlin, which for many years symbolized division in the world, is now turning into a symbol of unity."

## Golf tickets

Golf followers have only another nine days in which to apply for a maximum discount on season tickets for the Open Championship at St Andrews from July 19 to 22. The £40 passes, which provide entry to all four practice days as well as the four days of Championship play at an overall saving of 40 per cent, are available only until the end of this month.

### SPORT IN BRIEF



**Samaranch: raised hopes**  
**Syson wins**

Fran Syson, of Seacourt Club, beat the former England squash captain, Sheila Macintosh, in the final of the George Wimpey British Ladies' real tennis Masters over-40 championships.

## Solberg clear

Tokyo (Reuters) - The Norwegian woman javelin thrower, Trine Solberg, has had a two-year suspension lifted by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) because two samples she gave for a drugs test did not give the same result.

## British panel

Seven British officials have been appointed by the International Tennis Federation for Davis Cup ties next week: George Grime, referee, Jane Tabor, umpire, Malcolm Huntington, umpire, Stephen Winyard, umpire, Jeremy Shales, referee, Alan Mills, referee, Sultan Ganji, referee and Colin Hess, referee.

## Place in sun

After a difficult day in the New Zealand sun, Great Britain and Ireland took a 2-1 lead in the croquet international against New Zealand. Joe Hogan and Bob Jackson were beaten by Colin Irwin and Mark Saurin, of Ireland.

## Favourites win

The favourites, James Male and Julian Snow, of Radley, retained the Henry Leaf Public School Old Boys real tennis doubles championship at the Queen's club beating the second seeds Peter Seabrook and Alan Lovell of Winchester in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2.

## Protests over tour subside

By Richard Streeton, Johannesburg

For the third consecutive day the anti-apartheid demonstrators allowed the English cricketers to practise at the Wanderers Ground nets here unmolested. Nothing is certain but there have been veiled hints from the protesting groups that their next disruptive action is planned for Kimberley, where Gatting's side travel on Thursday to play their first match.

Should this be true it will provide the first chance to see if the South Africa Law and Order Ministry were sincere in their announcement at the weekend that in future they would allow peaceful demonstrations against the tour to take place. Local police permission has to be sought and the Transvaal anti-tour committee announced last night that they would ignore this stipulation. A police spokesman has also confirmed that 10 people arrested at Jan Smuts airport on Friday were released the same day without being charged.

The team's practises take place under discreet security provided by a handful of

armed police, mostly in T-shirts and sports slacks, accompanied by two Alsations. Security is tighter, though still low key, at the cricketers' hotel. They have taken over a floor near the top of a building in a suburban area, seven miles from the city centre. The players have been told there is no reason why they should not go out alone to shop, dine and so on.

Gatting said he was pleased that the tour's threat to the Commonwealth Games had been lifted. Many of the International Cricket Conference members were also part of the Commonwealth, he said, and had signed the ICC agreement relating to visits to South Africa. Both Gatting and Embury, the vice-captain, reiterated that they hoped to return to Test cricket after serving their bans.

Embury, who will be 43 when he becomes eligible again in 1996, said: "This applies to several of our team. As in 1987 we have accepted the consequences of coming here but the incentive remains and several of the side could

play Test cricket again. Embury said he knew that people wondered whether a young batsman like Maynard at 23 would retain his interest playing only county cricket. "I am sure he will and people like Mike Gatting and myself will make sure that he does."

Embury said: "If I can keep fit I am certainly I have a lot to offer English cricket, as a spinner and in other ways." Embury and Graveney, as well as Barnett, whose leg breaks are turning and lifting on the hard net pitches, are all expected to have plenty of work at Kimberley, where the temperature could be more than 100° F. The spinners all share blistered fingers from the machine-sewn Australian ball used in South Africa but the touring side appreciate that their fast men will have to be nursed carefully.

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## Benson's year

Kent have awarded the opener, Mark Benson, a benefit for 1991.

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